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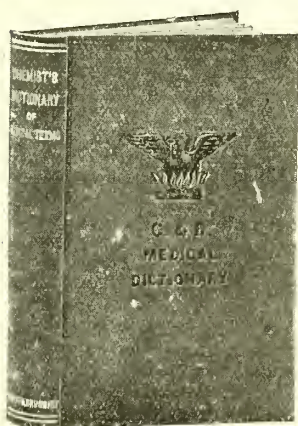
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A BOOK TO BUY.

THIS reduced facsimile of the "Chemists' Dictionary of Medical Terms and Treatment" serves to show that it differs



in form from other books of the C. & D. series. It measures 5½ in. by 3½ in., and contains fully 280 printed pages. There is no medical dictionary so compact which gives so much up-to-date information. It goes straight to the point—which is what chemists most need when they are asked questions by customers. The Dictionary is published at 2s. 6d. net, or free by post for 2s. 8d. from the C. & D. office, 42 Cannon Street, E.C. It may also be obtained from leading wholesale houses at the published prices to account. A list of the houses who hold stock was given in last week's Supplement.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATIONS are easily first this week in respect to the number of pages occupied in this issue and in variety of subjects.

Place aux dames; before the Woman Pharmacists' Association Miss Maynard, of Westfield College, delivered an interesting ethical lecture, which appeals to men as well as women. Some extracts from it are given on p. 764, and a portrait of Miss Buchanan, acting President of the Association.

THE BUSINESS SIDE of modern pharmacy was discussed by Mr. W. Hales at the Chemists' Assistants' Association. He emphasised the importance to assistants of salesmanship and other commercial attributes which are lost sight of in Minor studies (p. 765).

A UNION FOR CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS was the subject taken by Mr. E. O. Rowland for his presidential address to the Edinburgh C.A. and A. Association. He made definite proposals for a union, which will be found on p. 766.

PURITY OF CHEMICALS is one of the most important trade problems. Mr. A. W. Southall, inaugurating his presidency of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association, gave his views on it, showing the conditions in which absolute purity is not requisite in medicine (p. 763). The same subject was incidentally discussed at Bloomsbury Square on Tuesday evening.

THE DISPENSING AND SALE OF POISONS has been debated in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, where Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, Assistant Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, has expounded views akin to those recently stated in our columns by Mr. Merson (p. 763).

OTHER TOPICS of less general interest are reported from several associations. Pharmaceutical education was the topic at Leicester. Mr. J. F. Brown, of Dover, has addressed a letter to the Prime Minister in regard to pharmacy legislation (p. 761).

THE first evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society at Bloomsbury Square was devoted to a discussion on the "B.P. Codex." Mr. C. A. Hill, who led off the discussion, criticised chemical matters severely, but courteously, and was followed by several others on both sides. To the report of the debate beginning on p. 757, we add comparisons of passages from the "Codex," with passages from "Squire," "Martindale," and other well-known books, which show how the committee of compilers "eribbed."

THIS week's legal reports are exceptionally interesting, and in a few cases amusing. A glance over pp. 744-5 will show the subjects of litigation.

WE give further particulars in regard to the Industrial Spirit Supply Co., Ltd., which was formed last month for the purpose of keeping down competition in industrial alcohol. We show how the objects of the Revenue Act, 1906, have been almost defeated by combinations in the spirit trade (p. 754).

WE devote fully two pages in this issue to portraits and personal particulars of the chemists who have been elected Mayors in England and Wales. To these we add some notes about others who have obtained municipal honours (p. 748).

WE give on p. 755 the latest advices from Australia in regard to the patent-medicine question there and in New Zealand.

THE reply of the Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society to the queries of the Transvaal Customs and Industries Commission relates chiefly to the manufacture of spirituous medicinal preparations (p. 743).

THERE has been a newspaper scare this week in regard to inaccurate dispensing in London. It is a revival of a matter dealt with in August, and the circumstances are described on p. 755.

THE U.S.P. tests for lemon oil have given a lot of trouble, a great deal of oil being detained on the advice of the Government chemists. This has now been released (p. 756). Two Italian chemists write to us about the matter (p. 772).

THE effects of the high Bank rate continue to operate adversely on trade conditions, and the strong desire which is evinced to turn goods into ready cash helps to depress prices, there being practically no articles that have moved in favour of sellers this week. Morphine salts, codeine and salts are much lower. Citric acid, cod-liver oil, guinea grains, lemon oil (c.i.f.), nitrate of soda, pepper, and turpentine are all easier (p. 767).

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Parliament is to meet on January 29, 1908.

Alois Wilsilthater, described as a druggist, appeared at Bow Street Police Court on November 12 for extradition on a charge of larceny in Austria. The prisoner was remanded.

On the occasion of his birthday, King Edward conferred a baronetcy on Mr. Jeremiah Colman, of the well-known Norwich mustard firm. Knighthoods were conferred upon Dr. W. H. Allchin, of London, and Dr. W. H. Thompson, of Dublin.

At Barnstaple on November 6, a man named Moore, employed as porter by Mr. E. W. Proudman, chemist and druggist, High Street, was fined 20s. for stealing 17s. 9d. Belonging to his employer. Moore pleaded guilty, and Mr. Proudman stated that he did not desire to press the charge.

A cyclists' machine skidded in Low Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield, on November 7, and the rider was hurled through the plate-glass window of the shop of Mr. Matthew Radford, chemist and druggist. The cyclist was badly cut, and the window was damaged to the extent of about 3l.

The Council of the Royal Photographic Society asked for suggestions as to the best way in which to advance and popularise the study of colour photography. At a meeting of members held on November 13 to discuss the subject it was recommended that a colour section should be created to encourage and assist experimenters in new colour processes.

The "Railway Gazette" states that it is the intention of the President of the Board of Trade to appoint a Committee, in which will be included several practical railwaymen, to consider, among other things, the whole question of railway rates and the desirability of revision on a larger scale than could conveniently be carried out by the Railway and Canal Commission.

The London Chamber of Commerce, with all other bodies associated with the Chamber and interested in the Port of London Bill, were represented at a Conference with Mr. Lloyd-George on November 7, when the draft memorandum prepared by the London Chamber of Commerce was discussed. As the recommendations contained in the memorandum are already completely covered by the Government proposals, the Bill will receive the united support of the Chamber and the other bodies represented at the Conference.

Analysts Appointed.

Mr. C. G. Moor, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S., of Savoy House, Strand, W.C., has been appointed public analyst for the county of Dorset. This appointment does not entail Mr. Moor's leaving his present address.

Mr. A. Wynter Blyth, the retiring medical officer of health, has been appointed public analyst for Marylebone, at a salary of 350l. per annum, with an allowance of 150l. per annum in respect of laboratory accommodation, assistance, and chemicals. He is further to receive 7s. 6d. for each sample exceeding 700 analysed during the year.

A Dispenser's Application.

At the weekly Court of Exeter Corporation of the Poor on November 12, Mr. Eric Lemmon, pharmaceutical chemist, wrote applying for an increase of salary as dispenser. Mr. Lemmon stated that he had held the position for more than nine years at a less salary than his predecessor, that he had had increased work placed upon him through the new system of purchasing drugs in London, and that during the six months ending June 30 he had the largest number of patients on record. The application was referred to the Finance Committee.

"Truth" and Quacks.

The hearing of an action for libel brought by Dr. Dakhyl (a medical man with Parisian degrees and formerly a medical adviser at the Drouet Institute for Deafness) against Mr. Labouchere, of "Truth," occupied Mr. Justice Darling

and a special jury for four days in the High Court last week. A large number of witnesses were called on both sides, some giving evidence of cures effected by Dr. Dakhyl's treatment, while many eminent medical men, Mr. Cheate, Mr. Tilley, and Sir Victor Horsley, among others, contended that there could not possibly be any virtue in Dr. Dakhyl's treatment (by plasters behind the ears and so forth), and that the methods of Dr. Dakhyl were what Mr. Labouchere had described them—quackery. The definition of the word "quack" engaged the ingenuity of Sir Edward Clarke (for Dr. Dakhyl), Mr. Shee and Mr. Eldon Bankes (for Mr. Labouchere), and Mr. Justice Darling all through the proceedings; but after Mr. Justice Darling had briefly summed up on the fourth day, quoting Addison, Pope, and Moliere on "quackery," the jury, after short consideration, found for the defendant, with costs.

The Sale of Emmenagogues.

At an inquest held at Palmer's Green on November 9 respecting the death of a young married woman named Brown, it was stated that death was due to blood-poisoning following peritonitis, due to three internal perforations, caused probably, according to Professor Pepper, the Home Office pathologist, by a knitting-needle. The evidence was that the deceased woman complained of severe abdominal pains, and admitted having taken medicine she bought in a shop in Seven Sisters Road. The husband said they had been married four years, and had three children. Deceased had said she would never have any more children; but he did not know that she was *enceinte* or that she had taken any medicine. Evidence was given by Herbert William Baker, who said he was a herbalist at 9 Electric Parade, Seven Sisters Road, N., and that he traded in the name of Baldwin & Co. The bottle (produced) had the appearance of having been purchased at his shop. He, however, had no knowledge of the person to whom it was sold. It would be sold over the counter in the usual way as a "female corrective mixture."—The Coroner: Corrective of what?—Witness: Cold, anaemia, or anything like that. It is the usual term used by chemists.—Witness went on to explain that it was a variation of Griffiths' mixture. He gave formula in detail. He also supplied "herbal female pills," which were to be taken at intervals: they also were not intended for any other purpose than as correctives. He had another shop near by where he traded in the name of Baker. "Baldwin's" was a herbalist's, and "Baker's" a drug-store. He purchased one of the shops to keep a competitor out. He denied that either the mixtures or the pills were sold for abortive purposes, or that the fact that he sold such "correctives" was an inducement to abortion. The Coroner, in summing up, said the medicine had nothing to do with the cause of death, and the jury returned a verdict of death "from the effects of an illegal operation, but by whom it was performed there is no evidence to show."

Birmingham Notes.

Mr. Collinge, M.Sc., has been appointed director of the Cooper Research Laboratory, Berkhamstead.

Mr. Owles has succeeded to the Moseley Road pharmacy of Mr. Blackburn, which was formerly held by Mr. C. G. Crooke, now of Burnley.

A new Children's Hospital is to be erected in Ladywood Road, on a freehold site of 13,234 square yards, at a cost not yet estimated, to provide for 125 beds.

Mr. C. S. Baynton gave a demonstration of the new process of colour-photography before the Birmingham Photographic Society last week. This gentleman is a registered chemist and proprietor of Hume's, New Street.

Broad Street and its corner seem a happy hunting-ground for burglars. Now Messrs. A. Williams & Sons, chemists and drysalters, have received a visit, stamps and petty cash being the minus quantity. The safes resisted their endeavours.

A well-known firm of non-alcoholic beverage makers have received a communication from Somerset House that all persons who sell cider, whether it contains alcohol or not, must hold a cider-licence. The members of the firm wonder why the authorities have taken up such a position, as to which it is stated they are emphatic.

Brighton News.

Mr. W. H. Gibson's two daughters are about to be married, one on December 11 next, and the other on New Year's Day, 1908.

Councillor C. G. Yates has been elected Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee on the Brighton Corporation. He is also a member of the Tramways, Telephones, Aquarium, and Education Committees.

The ex-Mayor (now Deputy-Mayor) of Brighton is Dr. Henry Gervis, M.A., who will be remembered by visitors at the B.P.C. Conference at Brighton by reason of his witty and genial speech on the opening day.

The "Course for Chemists" at the Municipal Technical College includes instruction in chemistry and physics (Dr. Clutterbuck), botany and materia medica (Mr. H. Edmonds), and pharmacy and dispensing, with prescription reading (Mr. C. A. Blamey). The fees for chemistry (inorganic first year, inorganic second year, and organic) and for botany are 11s. per session each subject; for pharmacy and dispensing the fee is 5s. per session, and for materia medica it is 17. 11s. 6d. per term. Latin classes are also held for students desiring instruction in that subject.

N.E. Lancs Notes.

In urging greater care in the treatment of infants, Mr. G. P. Holden, Darwen's new Mayor, said that in France it is a penal offence to give solid food to a child under nine months, or to feed a baby from bottles with a long tube.

Among the winter Benedicts will be Mr. John Rennie, the popular Secretary of the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association. He is a son of Mr. James Rennie, the Oldham Director of Education, and on December 14 he will become united in matrimony to Miss Lill. Eckersall, of Oldham.

Last week Mr. Joseph Alexander Barlow, jun., chemist and druggist, of Burnley, injured his right eye by coming in contact with a nail projecting in the edge of the doorway of his store-room. The injury was found to be so serious that the eye was beyond repair, and it was removed to prevent the other one from being affected. Mr. Barlow is progressing favourably.

A meeting of the committee of the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association was held at Blackburn on November 7. In the absence of the President (Mr. C. A. Critchley), Mr. Highton presided. Arrangements were completed for the first whist-drive of the session, and it was agreed to send delegates to the Conference of Local Associations to be held at Preston on November 28.

Alderman Ralph Shorrocks, chemist and druggist, of Darwen, concluded his mayoralty on November 9. It is generally admitted that during the year he has filled the position of Chief Magistrate worthily and to the entire satisfaction of the town. There has never been a more popular occupant of the Mayoral Chair, and for a man of over three score years and ten he has shown surprising energy. Both the Alderman and Mrs. Shorrocks have been complimented on their year's service.

Notts Notes.

Instead of taking the usual form of a dinner, the reunion of the Nottingham and Notts Pharmaceutical Association this year will be a kind of supper and *conversazione*. This will be the thirty-ninth annual social gathering of the Association, and Thursday, November 21, has been fixed as the date.

An inquiry is to be held into the cause of the disastrous fire which occurred recently at the shop of Mr. Wm. Thomson, chemist and druggist, in Derby Road, Nottingham (see *C. & D.*, October 12, p. 563). The two men who were injured by jumping from the window are both recovering.

Following upon the discussion recently by the Nottingham and Notts Pharmaceutical Association of the law in regard to the sale of poisons, a circular has been sent to each of the members, stating that in a general way the provisions of the Act are observed, but some laxity appears to prevail with regard to the sale of such preparations as Easton's and Fellows' syrups, and it is of the utmost importance that in all sales of poisons, no matter how small, the legal requirements should be strictly observed. With a view to helping members, the Council has formed an Advisory Committee,

who will consider and advise on any doubtful points submitted to them; and in the case of any chemist finding it difficult to observe the regulations owing to their being evaded by others in his district, the committee will, on receiving information, endeavour by friendly means to remove the difficulty.

Sheffield Notes.

The local Press have noted the appointment of Mr. H. Antcliffe, as the representative of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations for the Midland Counties, under the heading "Honour for a local pharmacist."

Mr. Edward J. Raynor, chemist and druggist, of Rotherham, has recently read an interesting paper on "Romance and Science of the Mysterious" before the literary society of the Sheffield Y.M.C.A. It has been printed practically in full in a local paper.

The annual dinner of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society on the 21st inst. promises well. The guests will include Mr. J. Rymer Young, J.P., Mr. Lord Gifford, Dr. H. Scurfield (M.O.H., Sheffield), Mr. G. E. Scott-Smith, F.I.C., F.C.S., Mr. Arthur Neal (solicitor to the Society), Professor C. J. Patten, and Mr. W. Rigby (President of the Barnsley Association).

Football.

Allenburys' F.C. met Clapton A at Hackney Marshes, and suffered defeat by 6 goals to *nil*.

Heron F.C., in the City Championship, met City Albion F.C. High scoring was witnessed, the match ending in a draw of 5 goals each.

Suspected Poisoning.

A singular charge of poisoning with intent to murder was preferred at the Swansea County Police Court on November 9 against a young woman named Mary Ann Griffin. She is married to a collier resident at Black Pill, and according to statements which he made to the police and neighbours he, being unwell, went to bed, and in the course of the day his wife gave him some medicine, immediately after partaking of which he became unconscious. When he came to his senses again he found himself fastened to the bedstead. His cries for help brought a neighbour to his assistance. An emetic was administered, and on the arrival of a doctor the man was removed to the hospital, apparently suffering from carbolic-acid poisoning. The wife was arrested for attempting his murder, and she admitted having bought some carbolic acid from Mr. Moses Jones, chemist, High Street, Swansea, but denied the charge made against her. The Magistrates remanded the woman for a week. The man still lies dangerously ill in the hospital.

Scotch News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Aberdeen.

Mr. Alex. Alexander, chemist, Alford, has been elected a member of the Alford Town Council.

Mr. W. Giles, chemist, has again been returned by the electors of Ferryhill Ward as one of their representatives on the Aberdeen Parish Council. His name is mentioned in connection with the chairmanship of that body.

In the window of Mr. Milne, chemist, Turfiff, there were exhibited last week three photographic productions of colour photography by the Lumière autochrome process. One represents a portrait of a young lady in fancy dress, and the rendering of the colours both in face and dress is perfect in every detail. The other two represent groups of fruits and flowers, which bring out the colours in a very realistic manner.

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. T. Johnston, chemist and druggist, Springburn Road, has opened a branch business further up in the same road.

Mr. Francis A. Harper, chemist and druggist, Scotstoun, has sold his pharmacy and gone into the dental business.

Mr. David McNay, chemist, Kilmarnock, has been installed M.E.Z. of Moira Union Royal Arch Chapter, No. 249.

Mr. John Johnstone, chemist and druggist, has commenced business on his own account at 32 Main Street, Coatbridge.

Mr. W. C. Ferguson, chemist and druggist, Windmillhill Street, Motherwell, has been elected a member of Dalziel Parish Council. There were five candidates for three seats, and Mr. Ferguson headed the poll.

Mr. William Greig, chemist, proprietor of the New Apothecaries' Co., Glasgow, and late Chairman of the Northern Accident Insurance Co., Ltd., which recently became incorporated with the Royal Insurance Co., was presented with his portrait last week, as a mark of the shareholders' appreciation of his services to the company.

Personal.

Mr. A. G. Lunan, pharmaceutical chemist, Banchory, has been elected a manager of the John Watson Guild, Banchory. Mr. Lunan is a nephew of the Chairman of the N.B. Executive.

Mr. C. H. C. Rowland, formerly of Messrs. John C. Pottage, Princes Street, Edinburgh, is commencing business at 7 South Castle Street, Edinburgh (see *C. & D.*, November 9, p. 711).

Mr. Malcolm MacLaren, assistant with Messrs. O. Robertson & Co., chemists, Bridge of Allan, has been presented by his friends there with "a magnificent silver cigarette-case" on leaving to take an important position in Edinburgh.

The opening meeting of the session of the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association will be held on November 25, when the inaugural address will be delivered by Mr. J. P. Gilmour (Chairman of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association), the subject being "An Ideal Local Association."

French News.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

THE COD FISHERY QUESTION.—M. Girard read an interesting paper at a recent gathering of the Academy of Sciences on the work of the Permanent International North Sea Commission, regarding the presence and disappearance of codfish. It is admitted that the spawning varies with the temperature of the sea. Near the Gulf Stream it takes place in February, in other parts in March or April only.

THE INSIDIOUS RAT.—A formidable explosion startled the residents of the Rue du Commerce, the principal business thoroughfare of the peaceful (not to say sleepy) town of Bourges, about 8 A.M. last Tuesday morning. The whole plate-glass frontage of M. Désiré Duteil's pharmacy was blown into splinters, and the bottles and carboys followed into the street. The laboratory porter, who was dusting the latter, was thrown to the ground, and injured one of his hands. The flooring was partially blown up, and the counter fell against M. Duteil, who was seated at his desk close by, and fractured his left foot. Luckily no customers were present in the pharmacy at this early hour. It appears that the explosion was due to M. Duteil's assistant seeking for a gas escape with a small lamp.

ENCOURAGING SCIENCE.—When voting the Budget of Public Instruction, the French Chamber of Deputies specially passed a sum of 1,000*l.* for the purpose of buying radium with a view to its application for therapeutical purposes. In addition to this, a sum of 760*l.* was added with a view to founding a new professorship at the Paris Faculty of Medicine. In commenting on this vote, the "Petit Parisien" considers it does credit to Parliament, as showing its appreciation of the increased need of encouraging science, adding: "In spite of the fact that our scientific equipments are incomplete, except in the large cities, and although the necessary libraries and collections are lacking in many places where they ought to be, it must yet be admitted that great progress has been made since the Republic came into existence. This is greatly due to the earnest efforts of some of the professors, who, with scanty resources, have nevertheless been able to supply their students with these indispensable instruments required."

Australasian News.

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," copies of which can be obtained at 6*d.* each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

The Commonwealth.

BEALE'S REPORT.—In the House of Representatives on October 8, Mr. W. Johnson (N.S.W.) presented a petition from the Public Morals Association of New South Wales, asking that the Report of the Royal Commission on Secret Drugs be withheld from circulation until it had been revised by a board of medical practitioners. The petition was received.

AERATED WATERS STANDARD.—The Committee of the Board of Health has resolved, in the matter of aerated waters, that the presence of a trace of sulphites and salicylic acid derived from the syrups used in the manufacture of the waters be allowed. The standard proposed is that aerated waters may contain not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. salicylic acid or sulphite per pint. The new regulations, if adopted by the Board, will come into force on November 1.

TARIFF DECISIONS.—The following batch of Customs decisions has been made available:—Toilet cases imported from England, containing two military brushes—cases made in England, brushes made in France, separate invoices produced—to be regarded as the manufacture of the U.K. (Item 384 A). Batista surgical cloth proofed with rubber (Item 347). Neave's Food, and other infants' and invalids' food (unless of such nature as to be otherwise specially classified), Item 89. Brilliantshine (Item 89). Brilliantine (Item 8), or, if containing spirit, Item 294. Babies' feeding-bottles (Item 253). Liquor Carbonis Detergens, Item 291 (A).

New South Wales.

The P.A.T.A. of Sydney has issued a printed circular in which it is suggested that all retailers selling infants' foods, proprietary medicines, pills, ointments, etc., shall do so at certain prices, which are stated. Failing compliance with this requirement retailers are told they will not be allowed to sell the goods. The price-list fills four or five pages of very small type. Nestlé's Food, previously sold at 1*s.* 6*d.*, is to be charged 1*s.* 10*d.*; Benger's Food, 1*s.* 3*d.* size, to be 2*s.* 2*d.*, and 1*s.* 6*d.* size, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Allen & Hanburys' No. 1 Food is to be raised from 11*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*, and No. 2 and No. 3 food from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*; milk and cereal diet from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*, and so on throughout the list. There is likely to be an interesting trade struggle on this matter, says the "Melbourne Age," as more than one of the large retail houses in Sydney have decided to fight the combine and to sell at their own store prices, and not to buy from the local wholesale houses.

New Zealand.

NORTHERN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.—The second annual meeting of this Association took place on September 18, at the Chamber of Commerce, Swanson Street, Auckland. Mr. P. M. Mackay, President, was in the chair. The report and balance-sheet were read and adopted, and at the election of officers, Mr. S. A. Smith was elected President, with Messrs. Mackay and Woollams, Vice-presidents. The Secretary, Mr. Harold O. Wiles, resigned his office owing to pressure of business.

PATENT MEDICINES IN NEW ZEALAND.—The Colonial Laboratory, Wellington, publishes in the annual report of the Health Department a return of analyses conducted during the year. This includes four proprietary medicines. Pe-ru-na was found to contain 18.6 per cent. of alcohol. "Pink Pills," thin coating of pink sugar, under which is a layer of starch; pill-mass is composed of carbonate of iron and sulphate of potash, with little powdered liquorice-root. Hearne's bronchitis-cure contained spirit of chloroform, ipecacuanha, syrup 7.28 per cent., and (apparently) vinegar of squill. Warner's "Safe Cure" contained alcohol (10.81 per cent.), gallic acid, phosphoric acid, sodium salicylate, magnesium sulphate, ammonium chloride, syrup of hypophosphite of lime, and oil of wintergreen. It contains neither iodides nor alkaloids.

South African News.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

Cape Colony.

A KIMBERLEY SOCIAL.—October 16 being the fourth anniversary of the formation of the Northern Districts' Chemists' Association, the President, Mr. J. W. Robinson, invited the members to a social at his house. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Helmore, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Ruffel, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Pimm, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Barnsley, Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. Steedman, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Parry, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Thane, Messrs. Cooper, Turpin, Joppie, Bishop, W. Wilkins, Green, Giles, and G. Smith Houghton (Hon. Secretary). A most enjoyable evening was spent. Messrs. Turpin and Thane were in good voice, while the ladies—notably Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Thane, and Mrs. Steedman—delighted the company with their vocal gifts. Hearty thanks were accorded to the genial President and his wife for their happy hospitality.—Business in Kimberley and district continues very dull. Retrenchment has reached the limit, and all are now hoping for better times.

Rhodesia.

THE B.S.A. COMPANY AND THE SETTLERS.—Following meetings between the visiting Commission of the British South Africa Company and various deputations of Rhodesian settlers, the Company has issued a statement which promises, among other things, to amend the Constitution by reducing the number of nominated members for the Legislative Council to five, and to modify the apportionment between the administrative and commercial revenue and expenditure. It is likewise proposed to appoint a commercial representative at Bulawayo, who is to have charge of all commercial interests (including railways), and is to pursue an active and forward commercial policy. Mining royalties are to be revised and further land settlements encouraged.

Transvaal.

THE PHARMACY BOARD.—The Government (in the person of Mr. Smuts, Colonial Secretary) have, so far, given no indication as to whom they are to nominate for the Pharmacy Board. The names of Mr. Spryt, of Pretoria, and Mr. Alexander Heyman have been whispered for Dame Rumour, but it is more than probable that Mr. B. Owen Jones, of Boksburg, and Mr. J. R. Jones, of Pretoria, will be re-elected.

THE SHOP HOURS REGULATIONS are not regarded with unmixed satisfaction by the trade. A writer in the "Johannesburg Star" points out that the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Society suggested with reference to the Wednesday half-holiday that all chemists and druggists should close from 1 P.M. till 6 P.M., and reopen again from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. Instead of this the law compels them to close their places of business at 1.30 P.M. on Wednesdays, and to keep them closed until Thursday morning, provided always

That in any shop where the business of a chemist or druggist is carried on, a prescription of a medical practitioner may be compounded, or the requirements directed by a medical practitioner may be supplied at any hour on special demand.

This will mean the retention of the assistant in the closed shop the whole afternoon. Furthermore, it is contended that a dose of Epsom salts, castor oil, or other medical necessities would be unobtainable unless the patient or purchaser had first obtained (at probably a cost of 5s. or 10s.) the "prescription of a medical practitioner." The term "medical business" in the Durban regulations is recommended as more suitable to the needs of the case.

THE MEDICAL CONGRESS.—The South African Medical Congress was held at Pretoria last month. At the conference on October 15 a resolution was passed, calling for the provision by legislation of inter-colonial reciprocity in medical practice, and asking a conference to formulate a general inter-colonial scheme for reciprocity in medical, dental, and pharmaceutical matters. At the sitting on

October 18 a letter was read from the Colonial Secretary's Office, inquiring whether the Council would advocate an amendment to the Ordinance to provide for the labelling of poisonous compounds with the name of the specific poison contained in addition to the commercial name of the article, the law as at present only requiring the name of the article on the label. It was agreed that a reply in the affirmative be sent to the Colonial Secretary's Department. This attempted interference of the medicos with the pharmaceutical portion of the Ordinance as regards reciprocity and the sale of poisonous compounds, is not appreciated greatly by Transvaal chemists. It is felt that reciprocity is bound to come in time, but the Transvaal Pharmacy Board think that the standard of examination in some of the other South African colonies is much too low. In regard to poisonous compounds, although the more poisons there are on the schedule the better for chemists, still there are some useful proprietaries, the sale of which would be detrimentally affected if they had to be labelled "poison."

TRANSVAAL CUSTOMS AND INDUSTRIES COMMISSION.—IN THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of October 12 (p. 567) was detailed a series of questions sent out in the form of a circular letter by this Commission to business men and commercial organisations in the Colony. The answer sent by the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal dealt mainly with the manufacture of spirituous medicinal preparations. In the official reply to the Commission the Society stated that the condition is healthy and steadily growing, particularly now that large stocks of imported preparations brought in eighteen months ago are being worked off. The establishment of local distilleries would furnish means of providing the chief raw materials, and, incidentally, methylated spirits. The spirit used at present has to be obtained from neighbouring colonies. Medicinal preparations consist, roughly, of 15 per cent. raw material and 85 per cent. spirit. Only white labour is used in this industry, and the employment of coloured or Asiatic labour would not be affected. The Customs Union Convention, providing for protective duty on imported spirituous preparations has created the industry. Preferential railway rates on empty bottles have been beneficial, and could with advantage be extended to raw materials, such as spirit, roots, barks, etc., for manufacturing purposes. It is advisable to afford encouragement and protection to the industry in the following respects:—(a) duty of 20s. per gallon imposed on imported spirituous preparations; (b) rebate of duty on raw spirit (produce of South Africa) used for manufacturing purposes; (c) favourable railway rates and duties on empty bottles, corks, raw materials, etc. By such encouragement being given practically all the spirituous preparations required could be made locally, and employment found for a number of people, not only in manufacturing but in bottling and packing. Opportunities are created for apprentices to receive practical training in pharmacy. Hitherto an apprentice to a chemist and druggist has been almost unknown in the Transvaal, and businesses have depended on imported trained men. The cost of locally manufactured products of this description is virtually the same as that of imported products admitted under the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty. The classification of the present Customs tariff requires amendment generally by reducing as far as possible the number of rates. Alterations are recommended for recommendation in the following respects:

Essential Oils classified under Tariff 54 brought under general heading corresponding to existing Tariff 175.

Spices and Turmeric classified under Tariff 35. A large proportion of the spices—and particularly dried ginger—imported is used for local pickle-manufacture or ginger-beer and general *ad valorem* rate would be sufficient to tax these industries in respect of these ingredients.

Diabetic and Medicinal Biscuits, at present charged biscuit rate, might be classified at same rate as invalid foods.

The Society expresses its approval of developing the internal resources of the Colony, and of establishing and fostering industries within its borders, particularly where raw material is obtainable in South Africa, and when manufactured products can be satisfactorily raised at a cost comparing favourably with that of imported goods.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

DR. TUCKER'S ASTHMA INHALER.

IN the Court of Appeal on November 12, before the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Justice Buckley, in an appeal by Mr. Wakley, of the "Lancet," from an order by Mr. Justice Pickford, in the case of *Tucker v. Wakley*,

Mr. Eldon Bankes, K.C., stated that certain interrogatories had been ruled against by the learned Judge, and on behalf of Mr. Wakley he asked that they should be allowed. The "Lancet" had reported an inquest held on a labourer who had died from consumption, and it was shown that the man had been using "Dr. Tucker's asthma specific inhaler." He had given three guineas for the inhaler, and for the fluid 8s. an ounce. Upon that the coroner made some strong observations, which, together with comments, appeared in the "Lancet." An action was brought against that journal, and in the defence it was pleaded that fair comment had not been exceeded. Defendants said the constituents of the said specific, sufficient to make one ounce, together with the spray and instrument, could be obtained at any chemist's for 9s. The defendants had put interrogatories as to the composition of the fluid, and the objection raised was that defendants were trying to discover a secret process. The Lord Chief Justice, in refusing the appeal, said the Court had no rule to rely upon. There could be no difficulty for defendants to prove the price for the purpose of maintaining that it was a quack medicine, but inasmuch as the question was raised as to the secrets involved, it was within the discretion of the learned judge to refuse the interrogatory, and his lordship now declined to interfere with that discretion.—Lord Justice Buckley concurred.

BUTTER OF ANTIMONY OR FRIAR'S BALSAM.

IN the Dublin King's Bench Division on November 7, before the Lord Chief Justice (Lord O'Brien), Mr. Justice Johnson, and Mr. Justice Wright, in the case of *Bernard Collins v. Messrs. Connor & Sons*, chemists, Newry, Mr. Williamson, B.L., applied on behalf of the plaintiff to have judgment entered for him in the amount of damages found by the jury at the former trial of the action—namely, 20s. (see *C. & D. June 29, p. 951*). The action was by a Newry farmer and Poor-law Guardian named Bernard Collins to recover damages in respect to butter of antimony being supplied for Friar's balsam, which plaintiff applied to his nose. Mr. Justice Kerry, who tried the case, refused to enter judgment for either party, and plaintiff now asked that judgment should be entered for him for the 20s., with appropriate costs. The Court entered judgment for the plaintiff for 20s., with such costs as were applicable thereto.

Veterinary Surgeons Act.

WHAT IS "F.R.S."?

AT Bristol on November 8, Sidney Berry, F.R.S., St. Augustine's, Bristol, was summoned at the instance of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons for an offence under Section 17 of the Act. For the prosecution it was stated that the father of the defendant, the late Mr. James Berry, was a veterinary surgeon, and after his death in 1904 the defendant carried on the farrier's business, and had over the forge the description, "S. Perry, F.R.S., successor to the late James Berry, Veterinary Surgeon." The alleged offence was the appearance of the words "veterinary surgeon." For the defence it was urged that the defendant had simply put in the words "successor to"; "F.R.S." stood for "first-rate shoers." Defendant promised to obliterate the words "veterinary surgeon." The Bench imposed a fine of 2l. 2s. and 3l. 3s. costs.

"VETERINARY SH."

AT the same Court Frank Berry, Colkton Street, Bristol, was summoned for a similar offence. In this case "Veterinary Sh." appeared on folding doors, and on an old sign were the words, "Berry's Veterinary Shoeing Forge, V.S." In defence it was stated that defendant purchased the business from the executors of the late Mr. Jas. Berry. On de-

fendant undertaking to have the offending words painted out the case was withdrawn on payment of costs.

Merchandise-marks Act.

THE BLESSED CANDLES.

AT the Guildhall, London, on November 8, Alderman Sir G. Smallman heard a case brought under this Act, which affected the constituents of altar and ceremonial candles, according to the Rubrics of the Roman Catholic Church. It was stated by counsel that in 1906 all Mass candles for ceremonial purposes should, by a decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, contain 75 per cent. of beeswax, to be stamped. But in the case under consideration the Rev. Father Tilley, of Romford, had been served by Mr. Charles Farris, of Bishopsgate, with candles which, although bearing that stamp, contained only 25 per cent. of the wax. For this Farris was summoned at the instance of Messrs. Francis Tucker, a rival firm. Mr. G. Elliott, for the defence, argued that defendant had done all he could as a conscientious Catholic, and directly he discovered that the candles, which were supplied him by a French manufacturer, were deficient, he endeavoured to recover all the altar candles which he had sent out; but inasmuch as they had been blessed he found this impossible. The Alderman accepted this explanation and dismissed the summons, but without costs.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

AT Clerkenwell Police Court on November 5, William Frazer Jackson, chemist and druggist, St. John Street, E.C., was fined 20s., and 12s. 6d. costs, for selling camphorated oil which on analysis was found to be deficient in camphor to the extent of 10.4 per cent.

MILK OF SULPHUR.

ON November 5, Alfred Butt, of Crudwell, was summoned at Malmesbury Petty Sessions for selling milk of sulphur which, according to the analysis of Dr. Bernard Dyer, contained $\frac{1}{4}$ grain of arsenic per oz. Mr. C. H. Kirby (of Neve, Beck & Kirby), who appeared for the defence, explained that the milk of sulphur was taken over with the rest of the stock by defendant about two years before. The Bench exonerated the defendant from a wilful breach, and fined him 10s., including costs.

COMPOUND LIQUORICE POWDER.

AT the Sheffield Police Court on November 7, Mrs. Sarah Ellen Stanley, 93 Bolsover Road, Sheffield, was fined 10s. and analyst's fee for selling compound liquorice powder containing ground olive stones. Defendant was represented by Mr. J. E. Wing, solicitor, who stated that the defendant had purchased the sample from C. Riley & Co., drycalters, of Sheffield, and called Mr. Christopher Riley, who stated that he compounded the sample in accordance with the British Pharmacopœia. He did not add ground olive stones, but admitted that he did not do his own grinding, but bought the powders from a wholesale firm in Leeds.

GROUND GENTIAN.

AT Tunstall Police Court on November 7, before Mr. Harold Wright, Stipendiary Magistrate, Thomas Yoxall, herbalist, Burslem, was summoned for selling adulterated ground gentian root. Inspector E. W. H. Knight, who prosecuted, asked leave to withdraw the case on payment of the costs. Defendant, he said, was a very respectable tradesman. The gentian purchased from him was certified by the analyst to be adulterated with ground almond shells. He (Mr. Knight) knew that it was unlikely that defendant could have adulterated the stuff, and that in all probability he was innocent of the fraud being perpetrated. The defendant told him that he purchased the drug in 1901 from a firm of high repute in Liverpool. He communicated with the firm, who explained that it was only in 1905 that they ascertained that the continental firm from whom they had bought the ground gentian had been supplying adulterated stuff. They recalled all that had been sent out and obtained the support of the Liverpool medical officer of health in stopping supplies from coming into the port. This the medical officer confirmed. The firm had never themselves been convicted, nor

had any of their customers on account of selling adulterated drugs supplied by them. The prosecution wanted to take every means in their power to prevent adulterated goods being sold to the public, yet they would feel very sorry by means of a conviction to put a mark against the unblemished record this firm had held. If the Stipendiary thought it was a right course he would be glad to allow the case to be withdrawn. The Stipendiary: I think you have taken the right course. The case was withdrawn.

TARTARIC ACID.

At the same court John Howshall, herbalist, Tunstall, was summoned for selling tartaric acid which was adulterated with lead. Mr. Knight also made a statement in this case referring to Dr. Macfadyen's report to the Local Government Board on the presence of lead and arsenic in this acid. The defendant purchased the consignment in 1905 or 1906. He gave the name of the people he had purchased it from, and he (Mr. Knight) had caused a sample to be obtained from them, and this was genuine. If the Stipendiary thought he should withdraw this case in the same terms as the other he would like to do so. After some conversation, in the course of which it was stated that the manufacturers were not aware of the contamination until they saw Dr. Macfadyen's report (!), the Stipendiary allowed the case to be withdrawn on payment of the costs.

County Court Cases.

BEER v. DRUGS.

At the Sheffield County Court on November 8 Judge Benson gave judgment in the case of Brett v. Richdale, particulars of which were reported in the *C. & D.*, November 9, p. 715. It was in regard to the right of painting a sign on a wall of premises. His Honour held that the lease granted by defendants to the plaintiff did not include the covered passage leading to the back premises both of the plaintiff's shop and of the defendants' public-house, but only gave the plaintiff a right to use such passage. He therefore concluded that the outer wall of this passage, upon which the advertisement in question had been placed, still remained in the possession of the defendants, and that they were within their rights in painting an advertisement thereon. He, however, intimated his willingness to grant leave to appeal if desired.

ACETIC-ACID BARRELS.

In the City of London Court on November 8, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., Hugh Wallace & Co., Ltd., chemical manufacturers, 5 Fenchurch Street, E.C., sued Messrs. R. Lyon & Son, oilmen, 97 Commercial Road, for 11*l.* 10*s.* for acetic acid supplied. Mr. Lyon, one of the defendants, explained that the plaintiffs were charging him for barrels, but that should not have been done. Barrels were never charged for in the trade. They were always lent, and were returned when empty. That was the custom of the acid and vinegar business. He had sent the barrels to his customers, and when returned he sent them back to the wholesale firms. The case had been adjourned for an amicable settlement to be arrived at, but that proved to be impossible.—Mr. McPherson, plaintiffs' counsel, said they were willing to allow defendant 3*l.* for returned barrels.—Defendant said that was for other barrels. He had many barrels out, which he would return when he got them back from his customers.—Judge Lumley Smith: You will have to pay for those.—Defendant: But they are not worth 2*s.* each. They are branded with their name, and they cannot go back to anybody else.—Mr. McPherson said that the goods were supplied over a year ago.—After further conversation his Honour found for the plaintiffs for 8*l.* 10*s.*, allowing 3*l.* for the returned empties.

SODA-WATER MACHINES.

In the City of London Court on November 11, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., the British Automatic Aëraturs, Ltd., Paul Street, Finsbury, sued Mr. Simon Fishbein, 66 Berwick Street, Oxford Street, for 24*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* on ten bills of exchange given by him. Mr. Terrell appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. L. Green for the defendant. It appeared that the plaintiffs supplied a soda-water fountain to the defendant for 40*l.*, but it was exchanged for another, for which he was to pay 90*l.* He gave forty-four bills of exchange for it, and they now sued on some of them. Defendant said that the

machine turned out to be a dismal and an utter failure. He could not get soda-water out of the machine for more than a minute or two, and after some months the plaintiffs took the machine back. He now declined to pay for the machine because of its defectiveness. Plaintiffs said that the machine was perfect in every way, and that the reason the defendant complained was because he did not put himself to the trouble to know how to work it effectively. The machine registered 11,000 drinks having been taken out of it. The Judge said that the plaintiff company's assistant secretary, Mr. Tollett, had made a reckless affidavit in endeavouring to get summary judgment. He found for the defendant so far as the machine was concerned, but for the plaintiffs for 4*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* for the syrups used, without costs to either side.

WHAT IS EXPERT DENTAL EVIDENCE?

BEFORE Mr. Registrar Withers, at Blackburn County Court on November 11, Margaret Birch sued Hamer & Boyd, artificial teeth manufacturers, Blackburn, for 2*l.* 4*s.*, being an instalment in respect to a set of teeth which she alleged did not fit properly. There was a counterclaim by the firm for 2*s.* 16*s.*, due for the manufacture of the teeth. The Registrar required expert evidence, and Mr. Bromley, artificial teeth manufacturer, explained by means of a model and teeth fixed in wax how the mould is made and where the lady's teeth were faulty. Mr. Hamer, a partner in the defendant firm, was giving expert advice when the Registrar stopped him with the remark: "I cannot accept expert advice from this man. He is not a qualified dentist." There was a long argument as to whether the teeth could be made adaptable, and Mr. Hamer denied and ridiculed a suggestion that his partner offered to exchange the teeth for a set he had in his bag for display purposes. He also denied that teeth could be made with vulcanite in exactly the same manner as they could with wax. Mr. Hamer was referring to his qualifications when Mr. Read, for the lady, observed: "We do not brag." Mr. Hamer: "But it is well to make your qualifications known to such men as my friend on the right." The Registrar: "Stand down!" Mr. Hamer: "Yes, I don't like to remain here too long." The Registrar: "And don't be impertinent." Mr. Boyd, of the defendant firm, also gave evidence, and said a certain form was the practice of all dentists. The Registrar: "With all artificial teeth manufacturers?" Mr. Boyd: "And dentists too." The Registrar (sharply): "But you are not a dentist." In giving judgment, the Registrar said plaintiff must succeed. The case had been adjourned for the purpose, if possible, of securing expert evidence, and from his own observance he held that there was a misfit. He must confess that he could not for the life of him see why people like plaintiff should not go to a properly qualified man to get the work done. However, that was a point he had nothing to do with. He ruled that defendants had not carried out their contract, and he gave a verdict for the plaintiff on the claim and the counterclaim.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re HERBERT GEORGE HUNT, 30 St. Kilda's Road, Stoke Newington, N., Chemist and Druggist.—The Official Receiver, in his report to the creditors under this failure, states that the act of bankruptcy upon which the receiving order was made was the failure of the debtor to comply before July 17, 1907, with the requirements of a bankruptcy notice duly served upon him. The petitioning creditor is Mr. John Ashley Fenton. Debtor has not surrendered, and up to the present his whereabouts have not been traced. The unsecured liabilities of which the Receiver had notice amount to 119*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* The debtor's furniture was after the date of the receiving order removed and stored with a firm of house furnishers, to whom he (the Receiver) has given notice claiming the furniture. He has not been able to trace any other assets.

Re ALBERT EDWARD HUMPHREYS, trading as a Chemist and Tobacconist at 82 High Street, Portmadoc.—Debtor came up for public examination at Portmadoc Bankruptcy Court on November 12, before Mr. Registrar Thomas Jones. He filed his petition in consequence of the landlord distraining for rent. Particulars of the failure were given in last week's issue (p. 715), and debtor gave evidence bearing out the Official Receiver's statement. Furthermore, he said he started without any capital, except such stock and furniture as

he got on his mother's death, and the examination, which was brief, was closed. The creditors include: Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London (24.); Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool (32.); D. R. Thomas, Portmadoc (22.); Miss Ellen Williams, housekeeper (21.); Samuel Yates, Manchester (10.).

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

- BEVERIDGE, J. S., and HERBERT, W., general medical practitioners, Foulsham and Melton Constable, Norfolk, under the style of Herbert & Beveridge.
- CATER, A. P., and BANNISTER, W. H., dental surgeons, Stafford, Ilugeley, and Denstone College, Staffordshire, under the style of Cater & Bannister.
- FEARNSIDE, J., and FOX, F., druggists, etc., Liversedge, Yorkshire, under the style of John Swift.
- LEONARD, S., and ROBINSON, C., medical practitioners, Camberwell Green, London, S.E.
- TAYLOR, C., and TAYLOR, W. H., veterinary surgeons, Nottingham, under the style of W. G. Taylor & Sons.

Trust Deed.

- SMITH, WILLIAM D., chemist and druggist, Rhynie. Agent, Mr. A. B. Mitchell, solicitor, Huntly.

New Companies and Company News.

NEW PERFECT FOOD CO., LTD.—Capital 6,000/., in 17 shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with D. MacVean, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of animal and other foods, medicinal, chemical, and other compounds, etc. Registered office, 337 Albany Road, Camberwell, S.E.

IRISH MEDICAL AND DENTAL FINANCIAL ASSOCIATION, LTD.—Registered in Dublin. Capital 500/., in 17 shares. Objects: To carry on the business of bookkeepers, debt-collectors, etc., for medical and dental practitioners and others in Ireland. The first directors are T. K. Anderson, H. S. Roberts, J. A. Alexander, W. Lyon, J. Gilson, J. Milwain, and C. M. Sclanders. Registered office, 32 Ann Street, Belfast.

ENGLISH MEDICAL AND DENTAL FINANCIAL ASSOCIATION, LTD. Capital 500/., in 17 shares. Objects: To carry on the business of bookkeepers, collectors of debts, etc., on behalf of the medical and dental practitioners and others in England. The first directors are H. S. Roberts, J. A. Alexander, T. K. Anderson, W. Lyon, J. Milwain, J. Gilson, and C. M. Sclanders. Registered office, 4 New Court, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

OILS, FATS, AND WAXES, LTD.—Capital 2,025/., in 1,000 10-per-cent. cumulative preference and 1,000 ordinary shares of 1/ each and 500 deferred shares of 1s. each. Objects: To acquire the exclusive right to the process for refining, decolouring, and deodorising oils, fats, and waxes invented by J. K. Field, with the benefit of any patents which may be granted in the United Kingdom in respect thereof, to develop and turn to account the same, and to adopt an agreement with H. K. Field, E. W. J. Trevor, and J. Doull. No initial public issue. Registered office, 46 Dover Street, Piccadilly, W.

J. & H. TAYLOR (LONDON), LTD.—Capital 2,000/., in 17 shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a manufacturing optician carried on by C. B. Ustonson at 25 Eyre Street Hill, Clerkenwell Road, E.C., and to carry on the same and the business of opticians, spectacle, optical-glass and lens makers, mathematical, philosophical and scientific instrument makers, manufacturers of and dealers in photographic apparatus, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. O. Taylor, H. L. Taylor, and C. B. Ustonson (all permanent). Special qualification for J. O. Taylor and H. L. Taylor, 200 shares; of C. B. Ustonson, 360 shares. C. B. Ustonson is managing director.

STRANGE & GRAHAM, LTD.—Capital 18,000/., in 17 shares (5,000 cumulative preferred, 3,000 preferred ordinary and 10,000 ordinary). Objects: To adopt an agreement with E. H. Strange and C. A. Pim, and to carry on the business of technical research chemists, physicists, engineers, drysalers, metallurgists, manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical and other preparations and scientific and engineering articles, etc. The first directors are: E. H. Strange, 7 Staple Inn, Holborn, W.C., technical research chemist; C. A. Pim, 7 Staple Inn, Holborn, W.C., chemical engineer; and F. E. Matthews, 6 Hillcroft Crescent, Ealing, W., chemist. Registered office, 7 Staple Inn, Holborn, E.C.

SCOTTISH MEDICAL AND DENTAL FINANCIAL ASSOCIATION.—Capital 500/., in 17 shares. Objects: To undertake and carry

on in Scotland the business of recording and keeping regular business books and accounts for and on behalf of medical and dental practitioners and others in Scotland, and of collecting accounts and debts of all and every kind and description due to them, to prepare and lodge income-tax returns and claims for reduction or abatement of income-tax, to act as agents for the purchase and sale of practices, to purchase patents, to exercise and use patents belonging to the company, etc. The first subscribers, who are also the directors, are: Henry Edward Clark, C.M.G., F.R.C.S.Ed., surgeon, 24 Nile Street, Glasgow; John M. Macmillan, L.R.C.S.&P.E., L.D.S., 19 Newton Place, Glasgow; Wm. Lyon, manufacturing stationer, 474 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow; Joseph Newbigging Glaister, M.B., C.M., 4 Grafton Place, Glasgow; John G. S. Angus, L.D.S., 16 Newton Place, Glasgow; John Milwain, C.A., 135 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Chas. M. Sclanders, writer, 48 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Registered office, 170 Hope Street, Glasgow.

"SANITAS" CO., LTD.—The directors have declared the payment of the usual interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the six months ended September 30, payable on and after December 1 next.

APOLLINARIS & JOHANNIS, LTD.—The directors have declared interim dividends for the six months ended September 30 last, on the preference shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and on the ordinary shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

INCORPORATED MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.—Mr. Justice Parker on November 12 had before him the petition of the Croydon Guardians for the winding-up of this Association. Mr. Frank Russell said it was a creditor's petition which had stood over from time to time for settlement. The parties had now come to terms, and asked for leave to withdraw the petition. Leave was given, and the petition was accordingly withdrawn.

A. H. SIMPKINS, LTD.—In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on November 8, Mr. Eve, K.C., on behalf of the plaintiffs in the action of Richmond and another v. A. H. Simpkins, Ltd., the Essex Aerated-water Co., and another, applied to Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady for the appointment of a receiver of the first-named company. He said the plaintiffs were the only debenture-holders, and the money had become due by virtue of the company passing a resolution for voluntary liquidation. The Essex Aerated-water Co. were the second defendants. The case set up in the affidavits was that the undertaking as part of the undertaking of the company since liquidation (which was resolved upon on September 23) had been transferred by agreement to the Essex Aerated-water Co. The plaintiffs asked now (and nobody objected) that a receiver should be appointed, and he (Mr. Eve) understood the Essex Aerated-water Co. would give an undertaking not to deal with the premises let or leased to them by the liquidator, otherwise than in the ordinary course of business, pending the trial. His Lordship granted the appointment of a receiver.

Business Changes.

THE business of Ellis & Co., druggists and drysalers, Liversedge, will be carried on in future by Mr. Frederick Fox.

MR. W. J. GARDAM, chemist and druggist, has acquired from Messrs. F. H. Prosser & Co. the business at 404 Monument Road, Birmingham.

MR. T. L. BURGOYNE, chemist and druggist, formerly with Messrs. Bridges & Co., of Bournemouth, has taken over the business at Ellacombe, Torquay, formerly carried on by Mr. Arthur Lee.

MR. FAIRFAX FEARNSLEY, chemist and druggist, of Chapel-town Road, Leeds, has taken over the business at Cattle Market, Otley, formerly belonging to Mr. R. M. Pratt, pharmaceutical chemist.

THE business at Kensal Rise, N.W., which has been taken over by Mr. King (*C. & D.*, November 9, p. 716), formerly belonged to Mr. D. Scott Hyslop, the partnership between Mr. P. D. Nowell and Mr. Hyslop having been recently dissolved.

MESSRS. W. WINDLE & Co., chemists, 452 Edgware Road, London, W., have taken over the prescription-books, recipes, etc., of the business of Messrs. A. Rose & Co., chemists, of 441 Edgware Road, W. Owing to the expiration of the lease and the fact that the premises are coming down, Messrs. Rose & Co. are giving up business.

Trade Notes.

ANGIER'S EMULSION.—The Angier Chemical Co., Ltd., 52 Snow Hill, London, E.C., are offering booklets for distribution, and in their advertisement in this issue publish two very striking letters from chemists regarding Angier's emulsion.

DAVIDSON'S BILE BEANS.—Messrs. Davidson & Co., 14 Queen Street, Edinburgh, have opened an office at 29 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C., where the firm will be represented by Mr. A. J. Warner. This step has been rendered necessary through increasing business connections in the Metropolis.

MINERAL WATERS.—Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown, Ardwick Green, Manchester, have produced a taking little brochure about natural and artificial waters especially adapted for distribution by chemists to medical men. The various aerated beverages and mineral waters and their uses are described in terse language such as would appeal to educated people.

FRENCH PERFUMERY.—Messrs. Bernard P. Hall & Co., Bakewell, Derbyshire, have been appointed selling agents for Great Britain and the Colonies for the raw materials used by perfumers and toilet-soap makers and toilet otos of Messrs. Hugues Fils et Cie., Grasse. Messrs. Hall are known as the proprietors of the "Derbyshire Heather" perfume.

SEASONABLE SOAPS.—Messrs. D. & W. Gibbs, Ltd., City Soap-works, London, have prepared a good set of toilet-soap novelties for Christmas trade. The soaps are put up in boxes which are designed for holding, when empty, gloves, handkerchiefs, trinkets, and other toilet requisites. They make attractive Christmas presents, and, being effective and showy, they attract well when displayed. A complete list, with particulars and prices, can be obtained on application to the firm.

APERIENT FRUIT PELLETS.—Messrs. A. H. Cox & Co., Ltd., Brighton, send us a sample box of their newly introduced aperient fruit pellets. The pellets belong to the mottled series of compressed tablets and are thick and round, of the size of a threepenny piece. They are composed of "prunes, figs, and tamarinds, in combination with senna and scammony," and being not unpleasant to the taste are adapted for administering to children. The pellets are put up in white enamel slide boxes with lithographed labels, space being left for the chemist's name and address, which are put on free with orders for three dozen boxes. Messrs. Cox tell us they will be glad to send a free sample box to any chemist who asks for it.

MEDICINAL CONFECTIONERY.—Messrs. Thos. Guest & Co., Ancoats, Manchester, send us specimens of their winter confectionery, which we have examined, and find them to be compounded of pure ingredients and well produced both from the pharmaceutical and commercial point of view. Pine-tree lozenges are a leading line with them. They are put up in tins with enamelled lid (retail 6½d.) and are also supplied in 4-lb. boxes, with which cartons to hold 2 oz. and 4 oz. are sent. Effective window-bills and showcards are also supplied, and these, from their character, stimulate sales. The lozenges contain no narcotic, but simply aromatics which are proved to be stimulating to the bronchi. The firm's antiseptic pastilles, glycerin pastilles, and eucalyptus pastilles are also worthy of notice. They may be obtained in bulk or ready packed in lacquered tin boxes. Their 3d. box of Brompton cough-lozenges is an attractive line which should commend itself to retailers. The firm invite inquiries respecting these articles.

SELLING CASH-REGISTERS.—The National Cash Register Co., Ltd., have learnt the art of advertising. Their windows at 225 and 226 Tottenham Court Road, London, W., are invariably surrounded at all hours of the working day and well on into the night with a crowd of interested people of all classes. They have now completed the fitting-up of a series of model shops (each with a cash-register on the counter) in their windows, and, in addition to that, they

have arranged on a slightly larger scale inside the show-rooms model retail shops. Among these the pharmacy is much in evidence, and the miniature chemists' shops in the window and in the showroom are fairly faithful reproductions (on a small scale) of the originals. A gentle *C. & D.* criticism some weeks ago of the Latinity at first



used on bottles and drawers induced a prompt overhauling and correction, and now no one connected even remotely with the drug-trade would pass the windows without being attracted. Moreover, all are invited to enter and see the interior show, when representatives demonstrate the ease, simplicity, and utility of the National cash-registers with the greatest urbanity. The special cash-register for chemists shows five things: charge, reduction on account, payment out, change, and cash. The price of this machine is fifty-three guineas, but registers may be bought from twelve guineas upwards. The illustration here given depicts the model shop in the show window.

"THE LONDON GRADUATE" is the title of a journal published by a committee of the Council of the University of London Graduates' Union. "Bulletin No. 1," as the first number is called, consists of twelve pages, and contains several items about medical matters and the opening of the session at the medical schools. The committee can be addressed at 8 Collingwood Avenue, Muswell Hill, London, N.

Municipal Honours.

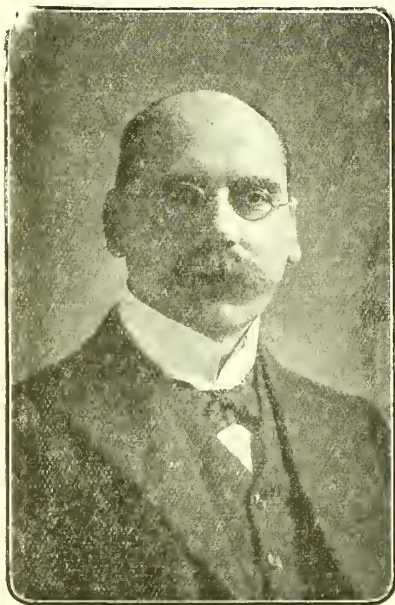
ON Mayoral Day in England and Wales on November 9 seven gentlemen connected with pharmacy were elected Chief Magistrates of the towns in which they spend their business lives, viz., Bournemouth, Exeter, Ludlow, Maidenhead, Margate, Portsmouth, and Ruthin—the last town re-electing its Mayor, Mr. T. J. Rouw, Ph.C. Now that the chemists who are actually new to mayoral office have donned their robes and chains it is appropriate to give some personal particulars in regard to them.

Mr. George Edward Bridge, whose election as Mayor of Bournemouth has given his *confrères* pleasure, is the principal of one of the largest pharmacy businesses in the South of England, at 128 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, but it was one of the smallest when Mr. Bridge took it over in 1883. He had not long settled there when he had to meet store competition, the first effect of which was to reduce still further a turnover which he had thought was at the irreducible minimum. This acted as a stimulus. Mr. Bridge, seeking for an adjunct to high-class pharmacy, got a local doctor

have told. Mr. Bridge is a Mason, sings a good song, and is the sort of man whom Nature designs for a mayoralty. He is a Conservative.

Mr. George Woodhouse, chemist and druggist, who becomes Mayor of Ludlow, has long been connected with the town, for he was apprenticed in 1868 to Mr. George Cocking, 45 Bull Ring, Ludlow, and now owns the business. After his apprenticeship Mr. Woodhouse went as junior to Messrs. Averill Bros., Market Square, Stafford. Then he studied with Mr. Braithwaite, Kentish Town Road, London, and passed the Minor in 1874; he was assistant with Mr. W. Arkinstall in Ludlow for about three years. He left him to go as senior to Mr. Spilsbury, Bath Street, Leamington, with whom he stayed till 1878. Noticing the old business in Ludlow was in the market, he purchased it, and is still in harness there, helped by his eldest son—Mr. Wildish M. Woodhouse—who qualified in 1902. The Mayor is a Churchman and Conservative, and has acted as a Poor-law Guardian and Churchwarden.

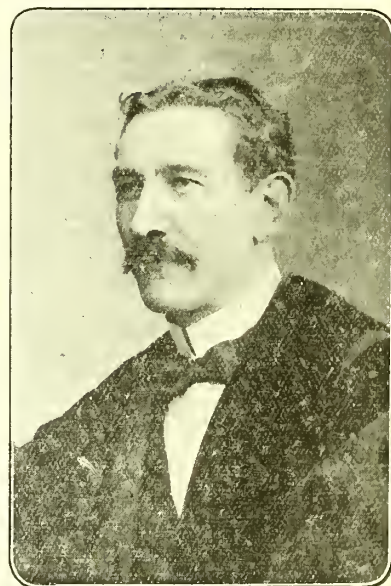
Portsmouth has chosen for its Mayor Mr. Ferdinand Green Foster, who is in business as a chemist and druggist at Lake Road, Landport. Mr. Foster is a native of the town, and was apprenticed to his eldest brother, Mr. T. Scott Foster. He studied at the Westminster College of



MAYOR OF BOURNEMOUTH.



MAYOR OF LUDLOW.



MAYOR OF PORTSMOUTH.

to give him lessons in anatomy with the view to turning his mechanical tastes to business advantage. Then he came to London and had a few months' work with an orthopaedic mechanic and attended nearly all the operations at the Royal Victoria Hospital, and so equipped himself for the auxiliary business as a surgical-appliance-instrument maker. This business-adjunct is one of the most important of its kind in the provinces, and the purely pharmaceutical part has kept pace with it. Mr. Bridge converted the business into a private limited company seven years ago, and has associated with him in the management Mr. W. E. Curtis and Mr. Harold Keene, who have been brought up in the business. Mr. Bridge is a native of Maidstone, and was apprenticed there to Mr. W. E. Lines. When nineteen he went as a junior to Messrs. Hasselby & Robinson, Hastings, where Mr. F. W. Branson was senior, and Mr. Bridge acknowledges his gratitude to Mr. Branson for the training he gave him as a dispenser. Next he was with Mr. E. Dunkley, of Tunbridge Wells, for three years; passed the Minor in 1879; and got London experience with Messrs. Probyn & Co., of Grosvenor Street. After that he bought a small business in Southsea, and in 1883 took over the Bournemouth business, which had been opened six months before by the late Mr. Lemuel Callaway. The rest we

Chemistry and Pharmacy, passed the Minor in 1881 just when he had turned twenty-one. He went straight into business on his own account. Mr. Foster's municipal experience commenced fifteen years ago, when he put up for All Saints' Ward, and beat his opponent by 288. He has retained the seat since, and has never been opposed. Mr. Foster's two brothers were at that time on the Council also, and it is, we should think, a unique circumstance that three brothers—all chemists in business—should be on a town council simultaneously. Alderman T. Scott Foster has twice been Mayor, but the other brother is dead. Mr. F. G. Foster has been a hard worker on the Council, as a member of the Asylum, Libraries and Museum, Tramways, and Watch Committees, and as Chairman of the Electric Light Committee; it is as Chairman of the Higher Education Committee that his work is most seen and appreciated. A handsome Technical Institute, which has been erected at a cost of 100,000*l.*, is nearing completion. This will accommodate Pupil-teachers' Department, Day Training College, School of Art, etc., and it was with the idea of worthily crowning Mr. Foster's educational work that he has been elected Mayor.

It is fitting in such notes as these to recall chemist-mayors of the past, as we now do the career of Mr. Samuel Steel,

retired chemist, Beccles, who on November 9 celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his election as Mayor of that town. Mr. Steel is in his ninety-first year. He is probably the senior ex-Mayor in this country, and has lived under four sovereigns. He was born at Bury St. Edmunds on January 24, 1817, and started in business as a chemist in the Market Place, Beccles, in 1832. He was elected a Town Councillor in 1845, and eleven years later was elevated to the Aldermanic Bench, the Mayoralty being conferred upon him on November 9, 1857. He retired from the Council in 1874 owing to deafness. He retired from business many years ago.

The name of Alderman Henry Gadd, J.P., the new Mayor of Exeter, is well known to chemists throughout the country, chiefly on account of the active part which he has taken in the P.A.T.A. since its inception, and partly owing to the activity of his son, Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, in pharmaceutical affairs. Mr. Henry Gadd is the eldest son of

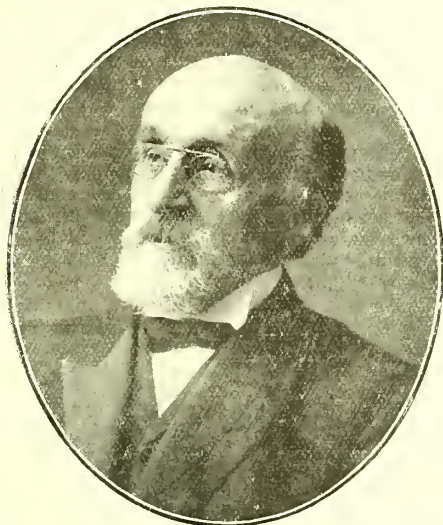


Photo.

MAYOR OF EXETER.

S. A. Chandler.

the late Mr. Charles Gadd, pharmaceutical chemist, Vauxhall, London, S.E., and during the whole of his business career has been connected with the Pharmaceutical Society. From 1874 to 1902 he was the senior partner of Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co., wholesale druggists, Exeter, and since that date has been Chairman of Evans, Gadd & Co., Ltd., Exeter and Bristol. Mrs. Gadd was the second daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Wippell, of Exeter, and his two sons (Mr. H. W. Gadd and Mr. Sydney Gadd) take an active part in the conduct of the business, as also does his son-in-law, Mr. H. E. Boorne, who has charge of the Bristol business. The Alderman is a Justice of the Peace for Exeter, a Congregationalist, and a Liberal Unionist. The following interesting note comes from our Exeter correspondent:

On Saturday Alderman Gadd formally received the badge which the King of Arms, acting under the warrant of the Earl Marshal of England, had granted to the city. The badge consists of a representation of the city "cap of maintenance," behind which are crossed the two city swords. The device is for use in various ways, and was exhibited for the first time on a new city standard flown from the Guildhall after Mr. Gadd's election on Saturday. Mr. Gadd's Mayoral banquet was attended by a larger company than has been seen at a like function for many years, and included Mr. J. Harris (the newly elected President of the Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists) and other members of the Association. Mr. Gadd attended divine service at the Cathedral in State on Sunday, and his first official function was performed on Monday, when he opened new Council schools, which have been erected by the city at a cost of 6,000*l*.

In Mr. Arthur Upson, J.P., F.S.M.C., the Mayor of Maidenhead, we have a remarkable instance of mayoral succession associated with the pharmacy at 35 High Street, Maidenhead. His former employer and owner of the pharmacy, Mr. J. Wesley Walker, was Mayor of the town in

1905-6; Mr. Walker's father was Mayor in 1870-1, and the founder of the business, Mr. Robert Higgs, was Mayor in 1844-5. Thus, since the pharmacy was opened in 1825 it has been owned by four persons, and each has been Mayor of the town. Mr. Upson is a native of Botley, Southampton, and after some experience as a pupil teacher in Southampton he was apprenticed to Mr. Hunt, chemist,



MAYOR OF MAIDENHEAD.

there, and later to Messrs. Chipperfield & Bates. He went to Maidenhead in 1883 as junior assistant to Mr. J. W. Walker, and did so well that in 1887 he passed the Minor, took over the business, and married. He has done good work for the town since his election to the Council in 1898, and he is one of the most energetic Wesleyans in the place. He is Chairman of the Municipal Charities.

Mr. Daniel Thomas Evans, chemist and druggist, has been elected Mayor of Margate. Mr. Evans has been a member of the Margate Town Council since 1904, and has devoted much time to the work of the Sanitary Committee, has acted as Chairman of the Finance Committee, and represented the Council on the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board. Mr. Evans served his apprenticeship at Cardigan, and had experience as an assistant in London, Brighton, Malvern, and Oxford. He studied at Luff & Woodland's school for the Minor on April 17, 1884. Five years later he was in business for himself at the High Street, Margate, and since then has added branches at 12 Cliff Terrace and 46 Northdown Road, Cliftonville, and at the Public Hall Buildings, Birchington-on-Sea.

Mr. W. Edmondson, chemist and druggist, has been elected an Alderman of the Kendal Corporation.

Mr. John H. Nicholson, chemist and druggist, has been elected Provost of Maxwelltown, Dumfries, for three years.

Mr. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P., was on November 9 re-elected for a second term as Alderman of the Borough of Cambridge.



MAYOR OF MARGATE.

Mr. Rouw, who has been re-elected Mayor of Ruthin, passed the Minor examination in December 1881 and the



MAYOR OF RUTHIN.

Major in October of the following year. He has taken an active interest in local public matters for a number of years, and is a very popular citizen.

Mr. Oliver Quibell, F.C.S., one of the partners of Messrs. Quibell Bros., disinfectant and sheep-dip manufacturers, is the new Mayor of Newark.

Mr. Ralph Stevens, of the Sheppy Glue and Chemical Co., has been elected Mayor of Queenborough.

Mr. A. A. Porteous, chemist, Lerwick, was on November 8 unanimously elected Provost of Lerwick.

He has been a member of Lerwick Town Council for twenty years and a bailie since 1893. Mr. A. L. Laing, chemist, is senior bailie of Lerwick, and it is rather an unusual circumstance for two chemists to be simultaneously at the head of a town's affairs.

We are indebted to Mr. H. Ford, of Liverpool, for this snapshot of Dr. Richard Caton, the new Lord Mayor of Liverpool, going in state to Church last Sunday. On the left of Dr. Caton is Sir Charles Petrie, and on the right Mr. Tapp, the retiring Lord Mayor. Dr. Caton is an M.D. and gold medallist of Edinburgh University, as well as F.R.C.P.L., Emeritus Professor of Physiology of the Liverpool University, and a member of the General



LORD MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL AND PARTY.

Medical Council. He has been on the Liverpool City Council since 1903. It is practically a century since the Mayoral Chair of Liverpool was occupied by a medical man, the last occasion being 1808 when Dr. James Gerrard was Mayor.

A PATENT-MEDICINE ROMANCE.—One of the London halfpenny morning papers—which is by way of being an authority on "romancing"—records the romance of a "pretty fifteen-year-old girl, who lives at Nechells, Birmingham." According to the tale the girl's photograph appeared in connection with an advertisement of a patent-medicine, and the beautiful face so fascinated "the son of a wealthy Birmingham manufacturer" (aged twenty-seven) that he obtained an introduction to the Nechells beauty, and has expressed his intention of marrying her when "she is of marriageable age." There is just a lurking suspicion that the record of this "romance" is the latest advertising idea.

Personalities.

MR. L. B. ROSS, F.C.S., C.C., Driffield, has been elected Treasurer of the Church of England Men's Society, Driffield Branch.

MR. A. NORMAN HIRST, Ph.C., B.Sc., has accepted a position as chemist on a sugar-plantation in North India, and will be leaving shortly.

MR. C. J. WAIN, pharmaceutical chemist, 17 Red Lion Square, Newcastle-under-Lyme, has been elected a member of the Borough Education Committee.

WE learn that Mr. Alec Boyes (Messrs. Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd.) is now a grandfather, his eldest daughter (Mrs. Peel) having had a son on Monday last.

MR. JESSE BOOT has given a site at Nottingham for the erection of an Institute in connection with the Albert Hall Wesleyan Mission, besides contributing generously to the building fund.

THE Rev. Canon Vaughan contributes to the "Nineteenth Century" for November an exceptionally interesting account of the life of Linnaeus, in connection with the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of the famous botanist.

MR. E. A. HOLLOWAY, of Southend-on-Sea, has been compelled to enter a nursing home in London this week in order to undergo a surgical operation. In consequence of his indisposition during the past month his personal correspondence has accumulated, and he would be glad if his friends would take this note as an explanation of the delay in acknowledgment.

WE now give a portrait of Mr. Frederic William Gamble, Ph.C., whose appointment as a member of the Pharmaceutical Board of Examiners for England and Wales was reported last week. Mr. Gamble hails from the neighbourhood of King's Lynn, Norfolk, and served his apprenticeship with Mr. Herbert Dixon, Russell Gardens, Kensington. He studied for the Minor and Major under Dr. John Muter, passing the Minor in January 1894 and the Major six months later. He followed this up by entering the competition for the Council prizes, and secured the bronze medal. Mr. Gamble was President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association for two years. He is a capable working pharmacist, and his skill and knowledge have recently been utilised as a member of the working sub-committee of the "British Pharmaceutical Codex."



Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.) will be esteemed.

- 24/51. Manufacturers of Turett's Teurols?
- 24/55. Where can theincuol and marol be obtained?
- 21/25. What is Stellatine oil or where can it be obtained?
- 29/26. What is tinct. lithanthracis, and where obtainable?
- 27/18. Who are the makers or agents for Angel brand castile soap?

COMMERCIAL FAILURES.—According to "Kemp's Mercantile Gazette," the number of commercial failures published in the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending October 25 was 759, an increase of one on last year. Under the heading of Chemists and Druggists there were seven, as against eleven in 1906.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE first meeting of the Council after the annual meeting was held at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, November 6. At the outset the chair was occupied by the outgoing President (Dr. J. A. Walsh), and the following other members of Council were present: Mr. John Smith (Vice-President), Sir William James Baxter, Messrs. John Edgar Connor, William Frederick Wells, David Mitchell Watson, Joseph Henry Bowden, James Michie, Henry Vincent Goldon, Wm. Vincent Johnston, and William Doig.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES EVANS.

After the minutes of last meeting had been read and signed, Dr. WALSH said it was his painful duty to mention that during the past week they had lost by death Mr. Charles Evans, one of the former Presidents of the Society. He was known to most of those present, and some of them had served on the Council with him in his official capacity, and he (Dr. Walsh) was sure it was not necessary for him to say anything in asking the members of the Council to express their sympathy with the relatives of Mr. Evans in the loss they had sustained. He accordingly proposed that a vote of condolence and regret be sent to the relatives.

Mr. WELLS seconded the motion. He said it was his privilege to be associated with Mr. Evans longer on that Council than anybody present that day. Mr. Evans took the office of President very much against his own wishes. The Society at the time had come to a crisis, and, though Mr. Evans was a very young man, and had not then been long in the Council, he was pressed and took up the responsible position of President of the Society. In 1890 it was his (Mr. Wells's) privilege to be associated with Mr. Evans and Mr. Hayes in reference to the amended Pharmacy Act, and nothing could exceed the way in which Mr. Evans threw himself into the work of the Society on that occasion—(hear, hear)—and he could safely say that Mr. Evans spent the half of that year working for the Society, and neglecting his own duties. Mr. Evans spent six weeks in London at the time, and they all knew what were the results of those visits to London in that year. (Hear, hear.) Personally he had the highest regard for Mr. Evans. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word, courteous and kindly to all associated with him. (Hear, hear.)

Sir WM. BAXTER desired to associate himself with the words that had fallen from the President and Mr. Wells with reference to the death of Mr. Evans. He had the honour of being examined by Mr. Evans when that gentleman was one of the Examiners for the Society; and he remembered well during the examination the special knowledge that Mr. Evans had of pharmacy—the thoroughness of the examination revealed how deeply he was versed in pharmacy, while his work for the Society was well known to all who had the pleasure of being associated with him.

Mr. SMITH said that he had looked upon Mr. Evans for the past twenty-three years as his best friend. He was a gentleman whom to know was to love; his character was most exemplary; he was a Christian man through and through, and his treatment of his staff was consideration itself. He (Mr. Smith) had the privilege of serving Mr. Evans for ten years, and he did not think that during all that time they had had one unpleasant word.

The vote of condolence was then passed in silence, all the members standing.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Dr. WALSH said the first business on the agenda was the election of President for the ensuing year. He had great pleasure in proposing for the position Mr. Smith, who had served as Vice-President for the past two years, and as Vice-President and member of Council one more worthy could not be found. (Hear, hear.) He knew Mr. Smith would fill the position of President with honour to himself and advantage to the Society.

Sir WM. BAXTER, in seconding the motion, said he felt sure if they fell in with Mr. Smith's views in the matter it would be that they would retain the very excellent and

admirable services of Dr. Walsh for another year—(hear, hear)—but as Dr. Walsh had made the proposition on account of the pressure that the duties made on his time—which must be fully occupied by his professional work—they must accept Dr. Walsh's resignation of the position. The gentleman whom Dr. Walsh had named to succeed him was one who had been loyal to the best interests of the Society.

Dr. WALSH having declared Mr. Smith duly elected, and vacated the chair, it was taken by Mr. Smith amid applause.

The PRESIDENT said he did not know how to express himself in thanking the members of the Council for the great honour they had done him in electing him to the very honourable and responsible position of President of the Pharmaceutical Society. He could assure them that the position was not one that he aspired to. He had tried to do his duty as a member of the Council, and to take every interest in, and opportunity for, forwarding the interests of the Society, but he did not look for the great honour that they had conferred upon him. As the Council had elected him it would not be recognising their kindness if he refused to accept the office, and in endeavouring to carry out the duties he was sure he could bespeak the good wishes and the loyal support of the members of the Council. He thanked them most sincerely for electing him to the position. (Applause.)

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT.

Mr. WELLS said he had to propose for the office of Vice-President a gentleman whose name, he thought, would meet

with the approval of all the members of the Council. Next to the late Mr. Evans, the gentleman he now proposed was one of the oldest members of the Council, and if he took up the position he would be of great service to the Society. He referred to Sir William Baxter. (Applause.) He congratulated Mr. Smith on the high position he had attained, but at first he was inclined to feel that

Dr. Walsh was endeavouring to shirk his duty in wanting to get out of the chair. (A laugh.) During the two years of his Presidency Dr. Walsh had worked with great energy in conserving the interests of the Society, particularly in connection with the Bill in Parliament last year, and he (Mr. Wells) thought they would be able in the coming year to count on the assistance of the experience Dr. Walsh had then gained, and of the influence that he was able to wield. (Hear, hear.) Failing that, if they now elected Sir William Baxter they would have a gentleman who would interest himself in the well-being of the Society, and one who had great influence with the Government. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Wells) thought the honour was due not only to Sir William himself, but to the North Country, which he represented. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CONNOR seconded the election of Sir Wm. Baxter as Vice-President, saying that he was one of the oldest members of the Council, and he (Mr. Connor) had known him longer, perhaps, than any member of the Board. He was a man who commanded the greatest respect over the whole North of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) The Society was honouring itself in electing him. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. DOIG, as another Northern member, expressed his pleasure at the election of Sir Wm. Baxter as Vice-President. It was not often that the honours of the Society went outside Dublin, and he thought it was a good thing to have them spread over the country. Sir Wm. Baxter was an able man, and he (Mr. Doig) was sure his name would be well received by all the members of the Society throughout Ireland.



SIR W. J. BAXTER.

The PRESIDENT said he would like to support the remarks made by the proposer and seconder. He was sure that if Sir Wm. Baxter would see his way to accept the position he would certainly confer a great honour upon the Society, and be of great use to the Society on any important matters cropping up in connection with the Pharmacy Bill.

Sir WM. BAXTER said his election as Vice-President had taken him quite by agreeable surprise. No member of the Council had given him any intimation of what was proposed, and on that ground he felt the honour they had done him all the more, because from no body would such an honour emanate except from themselves. The honour they had done him, therefore, who lived so far away from Dublin, he looked upon as a compliment, and he accepted it as such. He esteemed it exceedingly from his colleagues, and he trusted they would accept the scanty attendance he could give at Council-meetings; and any help he could give them or any influence he possessed was entirely at the disposal of the Society. (Hear, hear.)

ELECTION OF HON. TREASURER AND OTHER OFFICERS.

Dr. WALSH (ex-President) proposed the re-election of Mr. George D. Beggs as Hon. Treasurer. He did not think they could possibly have a more suitable one, or one who would look after the purse-strings better. He had given every possible satisfaction in the discharge of the duties of his office—(hear, hear)—and he proposed that Mr. Beggs be re-elected.

Mr. GOLDON seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. JOHNSTON, seconded by Mr. MICHIE, Messrs. Batt and Watson were re-elected Auditors.

The Law Committee, the Committee to Inspect Candidates' Certificates, the House and General Purposes Committee, the School Committee, and the Committee to Examine Declarations of Candidates for Examination and Registration of Registered Druggists were then elected, with only a few changes in *personnel* from the members of them for the past year.

THANKS TO THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT.

Sir WM. BAXTER proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Walsh for the efficient services he had rendered to the Society during the past year. (Hear, hear.) They would not be just to themselves were they to omit this vote of thanks to the outgoing President. In the history of the Society they had had a number of able and distinguished men in the Presidential chair from time to time, but they had never had a more genial or more courteous President or one who took a deeper interest in the affairs of the Society than Dr. Walsh. (Hear, hear.) He was a most capable President in every way, and the Society felt they were only honouring themselves when they recorded their appreciation of Dr. Walsh's services for the past two years. (Applause.)

Mr. WELLS seconded the vote of thanks, again referring to the excellent work done by Dr. Walsh in connection with the Pharmacy Bill, and saying he had strong reason to believe it was not because the Government could not reach the Bill that it was not proceeded with, but because of the influence that had been brought to bear on behalf of the Society, mainly through their ex-President. (Hear, hear.)

The PRESIDENT, in supporting the vote, said one of the greatest difficulties he (Mr. Smith) felt was that Dr. Walsh had put him in that position without sufficient training. He (Mr. Smith) had not had an opportunity of sitting in that chair on any former occasion. He supposed that a President should see that his pupil should get an opportunity of doing so on occasion, and he hoped he (Mr. Smith) would make a new departure in that respect. (Laughter.)

The vote of thanks was passed with acclamation.

Dr. WALSH, in returning thanks, said he felt somewhat embarrassed in standing up to thank the Council very sincerely for the cordial vote of thanks they had passed to him for what he had tried to do during the past two years. He felt altogether flattered by, and knew he was unworthy of, the remarks made by Sir Wm. Baxter and Mr. Wells regarding him; but they all knew that on occasions of this sort there was always a certain amount of latitude for exaggeration. (Laughter.) In respect to what Mr. Wells had said about his (Dr. Walsh's) influence in regard to the

Pharmacy Bill, he was bound to say that he would have cut but a sorry figure were it not for the assistance he got from Mr. Wells. He (Dr. Walsh) felt all the time that he was not doing all he should have done for the Pharmaceutical Society, and if he did not fail it was not altogether his own fault, as he felt he was not the man for the position. ("No, no.") He tried to do what he could, and he was greatly gratified that during his occupancy of the chair the Society had in no way suffered from that circumstance. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT then gave a hearty welcome to Mr. Bowden as a new member of the Council.

ALTERATIONS IN REGULATIONS.

The PRESIDENT, pursuant to notice, moved the following:

That Regulation IV., annual meeting and election of the Council (pp. 58 and 59 of the "Calendar," 1907), shall be as follows:

Papers for the election of Council shall be sent by post to each person entitled to vote, addressed to his registered place of abode, not later than the Saturday week before the annual meeting. Each paper is to contain the names of the outgoing member of Council eligible for re-election, and of those nominated under Regulation IX., under the names of the seven retiring members. Provided that should not more than seven candidates offer themselves for election, no voting-papers shall be issued; but the President or Chairman of the Council-meeting shall declare the seven candidates duly elected.

The PRESIDENT said the last sentence, commencing with "Provided that," had been merely added to the old regulation.

Dr. WALSH seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Also pursuant to notice, the PRESIDENT moved:

That the regulation dealing with the acceptance of Preliminary examinations held by other bodies ("Calendar," 1907, p. 70, last paragraph) be rescinded, and the following substituted therefor:

Any examination which is recognised by the General Medical Council as qualifying for the registration of medical students, also the University of Dublin Public Entrance Examinations (large certificate), the Intermediate Education Board for Ireland, Junior Grade, examination in all the subjects required, and such other examinations as shall be deemed by the Pharmaceutical Council as equivalent thereto—all the subjects having been passed at the same time—shall be accepted instead of the Preliminary examination of this Society, such examination to be passed prior to the statutory service at pharmacy, *unless such service has been commenced before January 1, 1907*. The usual fee of two guineas to be paid.

He said the object of this regulation was to enable the Society to define its position better than at present with regard to the certificates it was prepared to accept. If the Pharmaceutical Society accepted the certificates enumerated it would go a long way towards making entrance to the profession of pharmacy more attractive, and he believed it would be in the interest of both apprentices and masters if the Society could see its way to make the proposed change. It might not be advisable to pass the motion that day, and perhaps the Council would refer it to a committee. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WELLS said they had power under the regulation to take any certificate that they thought was equivalent to their own.

Mr. GOLDON thought it right to pass the proposed regulation as it stood.

After some further discussion, the proposition was allowed to lie over until next meeting.

RE-ELECTION OF EXAMINERS.

Messrs. Barnes and Woodroffe were re-elected examiners to conduct the Preliminary examination, Dr. Allsom to conduct the Materia Medica and Botany Division of the Pharmaceutical Licence examination, and Mr. Guiler to conduct the Registered Druggist examination.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

Mr. M. Tucker, Ph.C., Tuckerville, Copley Place, Cork, was elected a member, and Mr. Daniel Lynch, Portumna, co. Galway, was elected as associate druggist.

The other business transacted by the Council was routine.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Thirteen Municipal Pharmacies

in the Grand Duchy of Hesse, alluded to in the German news of the *C. & D.* of November 2, furnish a singularly interesting development of modern socialistic tendencies. In Hesse it appears the municipalities hold the concessions from the Government and lease them to selected apothekers, the rents received going towards the reduction of rates. The strict limitation of pharmacies which prevails in Germany is, of course, the condition which makes this adoption of collectivism practicable; but in essence it would be found difficult to give convincing reasons for this exceptional treatment of the trade in medicines. The German theory is that the genuineness of medicine is so important that those who prepare it ought not to be subject to the temptations of competition. But pure milk, unsophisticated bread, sound meat, honestly-made boots, and many other articles of necessity are in their way of equal importance to the community, and the same arguments against the dangers involved in competition would apply to these businesses as well as to that of the apotheker, though perhaps in varying degree.

The Protection of the Chemist

is a firmly-rooted principle in German domestic policy. According to Beckmann, the earliest positive accounts of apothecaries in Germany show that in the fifteenth century they were established in several of the principal cities at the public expense. They were exempt from all parochial duties, a house was provided for the apotheker and a fixed allowance of corn and wine. Probably a salary was also attached to the position, for the public were entitled to have their medicine dispensed free, and some of the records show that another duty laid upon the apotheker was to provide some specified confectionery for the use of the burgomaster and council at their official meetings. It is likely, however, that the supply of free medicine was limited either to certain medicines or perhaps to certain classes. In the records of the city of Basel there is a decree dated 1440 appointing a city physician with the stipend of an ecclesiastical benefice, who was to prescribe without fee; but it is expressly ordered that persons who wanted "costly" articles from the apothecary were to pay for them. Beckmann further tells us that the first apothecary established in the city of Berlin was one Hans Zehender, and that the magistrates granted him an hereditary licence in 1488, engaging with him besides that no other apothecary should be allowed to reside in the city. Hanover got its first apothecary's shop in 1560, and Dresden in 1581, the Duchess of Hanover providing the one and the Electress Ann of Saxony the other. The public apothecary at Augsburg in 1485 was a woman.

Too Much,

said Figaro in allusion to praise, is not enough. The same might be asserted with at least as much propriety with regard to adverse criticism. Mr. Mackenzie's censure of the Pharmaceutical Society which led him into the wilderness forty years ago with seductive promises of milk and honey, but has kept him in that dreary desert all this time, would have been more effective if the picture had been a little shaded. "To be artistic," wrote Herbert Spencer, referring to music, "the notes must not be all forte nor all piano." In Mr. Mackenzie's sketch there are blacks and whites, but no intermediate tints. The Pharmaceutical Society, as he sees it, scarcely reaches the moral level of an organised hypocrisy; it does not even desire

to pay the conventional homage to virtue. It is ruled by a Mephistophelian secretary through twenty-one automatons with the aid of some liveried servants; and the nefarious object which principally animates the Bloomsbury fiend is the subjection of the once free and heroic Scotland. This scheme is at present being promoted by means of cunningly devised by-laws. Why should this tyranny be endured? It happens by a singular chance that all the righteous and earnest members of the Society are collected on one side of a certain river, while those who are content with their chains are dispersed on the other side. It would be easy for the first group to make an Elysium for themselves, leaving the rest of us to rot in the Tartarus we have chosen.

The Gold Basis of Commerce,

to which most people's attention has been directed by the seven per cent. bank-rate, is the pivot of a complication of mechanisms which may be said to have constructed themselves, and by which the vast inverted pyramid is maintained duly balanced. Our credit system, expressed by cheques, bills, mortgages, and other varieties of paper, has developed to such an extent that it has been calculated that if everybody was called upon to pay his debts in specie, about fourpence in the pound would be available for the purpose. If that estimate is twenty years old it is probably extravagant now; twopence in the pound would perhaps be nearer the mark. But though the margin of gold to commerce may be very small there must be some. It is the assurance that there is gold behind it that makes us take a cheque with such confidence. But the marvellous historic fact is that the supply of gold has kept such regular pace with the development of commerce. A hundred years ago the world's annual production of gold was valued at between two and three millions sterling. So recently as 1890 it was under twenty-five millions; last year it had reached by gradual progression over eighty millions. The proof that the quantity of gold provided has been just about what could be absorbed is found in the fact that it has not to any great extent appreciated or depreciated. An over-supply of gold would obviously result in higher prices all round; a deficiency would have the contrary effect. Except for taxation and extraneous causes a hundred pounds would buy much the same then as now. Throughout the century gold discoveries have come just in the nick of time in California, Australia, Transvaal, and elsewhere. Can we rely on a continuance of these coincidences? Surely nothing is more likely to happen than that one day old sources will dry up before new ones have been discovered. In such an event it will not be a seven per cent. bank-rate that will save the situation.

The Sale of Nicotine Products

for horticultural purposes as well as for the treatment of scab in sheep is not altogether a pleasant subject for chemists to contemplate. It might have been supposed that when the revelations of the large consumption and the proved utility of these preparations were brought so prominently to our knowledge by means of the report of the Privy Council Committee four or five years ago these would have incited chemists to take advantage of their statutory position as the only legitimate retailers of poisons and compete for at least a share of the new business. So far as I can ascertain they have done this to only a very small extent—to so small an extent that they may be said to have justified much of what was urged against their monopoly in the Committee referred to. Their negligence in this matter may be explained in several ways. One is that their botanical training has not helped them much when there has come a chance of making money out of flowers and fruit trees.

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Editorial Comments.

Industrial Alcohol.

In our issue of October 19 we reported the formation of the Industrial Spirit Supply Co., Ltd., with the nominal capital of 1,000l., whose objects are

To promote the sale and manufacture of spirits for industrial purposes, to deal in methylated or industrial spirit by wholesale and retail, to "enter into arrangements with manufacturers thereof for and regulate the supply of such spirit," to deal in and enter into arrangements for and regulate the supply of naphtha, petroleum, and other spirits used otherwise than for consumption, etc.

We now learn from the "Wine and Spirit Trade Record" that the manufacturers of spirit for industrial and methylating purposes who are interested in this formation are Messrs. J. & W. Nicholson & Co., Ltd., the Hammer-smith Distillery Co., Ltd., the Bristol Distilling Co., Ltd., Preston's Liverpool Distillery Co., Ltd., Jas. Calder & Co., Ltd., of Boness, the United Distilleries, Ltd., of Belfast, and the Vauxhall Distillery, Liverpool. It is stated that the intention is to prevent cutting of prices and overlapping of districts, and it also mentioned that

should the German Government obtain a monopoly of the manufacture of raw spirit in that country (as it is said to be about doing) our own distillers might possibly reap additional advantages, but the way in which the Germans usually protect their industries prompts the conclusion that a hostile tariff would (if necessary) be provided to keep out the English spirit.

This combination is believed to be the primary cause of the rise in the price of methylated spirit mentioned in the C. & D. of October 12 (p. 590), and there seems to be little hope for manufacturers in this country ever getting duty-free spirit cheaper than their rivals on the Continent, and the whole object of the Government in the Revenue Act, 1906, with its provision of a rebate of 3d. per proof gal. on spirit used for industrial purposes has so far been defeated. The following comparison of prices shows this:

Price of spirit for methylation before the passing of the 1906 Act, 10d. per proof gal., or 1s. 4½d. per liquid gal.
Present price, 11½d., per proof gal., or about 1s. 6½d. per liquid gal.
Price of methylated spirit before the passing of the 1906 Act: "Mineralised," 1s. 8d. per proof gal.
Present price for industrial spirit, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d. per proof gal.
Present price for mineralised spirit, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 1d. per proof gal.

This is not solely due to advanced cost of raw spirit, but probably to the absence of German competition. The German spirit syndicate pays a higher rate for raw spirit and has stopped exportation in order to be able to supply German manufacturers with industrial spirit at the old rates. Our own manufacturers have to reckon not only with distillers, for the methylators have again increased their prices of industrial and ordinary methylated spirit. In consequence of this some of our more important firms of manufacturing chemists have already started methylating on their own premises. It is only those who use enormous quantities of denatured spirit who can afford to do this; consequently, there is room for some Government scheme

whereby users of a few thousand gallons a year could prepare their spirit in a Government methylating house. The Excise authorities have of late shown somewhat more reliance on the honesty of traders and manufacturers, and as the authorities are well aware that their efforts to furnish manufacturers with cheaper spirit have been largely negatived, they will probably not turn a deaf ear to any representative appeal which will assist in giving full effect to the 1906 provisions. The time appears to be ripe for formulating such an appeal.

As we close for press we observe in the "Times" a communication on the subject of which the following is the salient part:

In spite of the concession made by the Inland Revenue, [users of methylated spirit] are paying only 1*d.* per gal. less than they paid before the rebate of 5*d.* per gal. was allowed. One can only expect that, as a result of this closer combination of spirit-producers, the price of industrial spirit may soon be higher than it was before the Government interposed on the behalf of manufacturers. While the price of spirit for industrial purposes is advancing in this country, the price in America is decreasing, and in all probability will continue to decrease, and as a result we may expect to see a large increase in the imports from the United States of those chemicals and other goods in the manufacture of which alcohol is essential. The "free alcohol law" came into force in America three months after the Revenue Act, 1906, came into force in this country. The effect of the law in America has been to stimulate competition and to increase the production of spirit; the effect of the levy in this country has been to check competition and raise the price of spirit. It should be stated, however, that the American law permits of the use of industrial spirit for light, heat, and motive-power, and that in America producers of the spirit have been relieved of some of the restrictions which apply in this country; but the fact remains that America in the future, as a result of the new alcohol law, will be a very serious rival to British chemical-manufacturers. The combination of spirit-makers will also be watched with interest by those engaged in the motor-industry. Although the Revenue Act, 1906, did not permit of the use of industrial spirit for motive purposes, the hope was entertained that such an impetus would be given to the spirit industry that in course of time the production in this country would be enormously increased, and that ultimately the cost of production would be below the selling-price of petrol. When such a time arrived there is every probability that the Inland Revenue would have allowed the same concessions in respect of spirit used for motive-power as for spirit used for manufacturing-purposes.

"Patents" in Australia.

FOR the present manufacturers of proprietary medicines in this country, so far as they are represented by the London Chamber of Commerce, have decided to await developments in Australia before doing anything further in regard to Sir William Lyne's proposed measure dealing with the formulæ of such medicines. In view of this fact it is well for us to state that our last advices from Australia inform us that manufacturers of proprietary medicines there are beginning to put their houses in order; in other words, they are preparing to reveal their formulæ either by printing on the label, as Sir William Lyne has indicated, or by placing them before a Board of Health, as is expected to be the outcome in New Zealand. The feeling in Australia is that as the proposed conditions are intended solely to discriminate the really bad from the beneficial proprietaries, makers of the latter class are bound to gain by the conditions, seeing that on issuing from the trial, so to speak, they will have attached to them something in the nature of a guarantee. It is represented to us that this way of treating the matter deserves the consideration of home proprietors, but we must say that in Australia the fact is not sufficiently recognised that the interests at stake here are infinitely greater. Thus a single manufacturer turns out annually more of his medicine than is made of "patents" in the whole of Australia in the same time, and to him revelation of the formula in Australia has

to be balanced against the probable loss of his rights in all the rest of the world. As far, therefore, as home manufacturers are at present advised, it is likely that those who own the most popular medicines will drop Australian and New Zealand trade rather than disclose their formulæ. It will be remembered that in epitomising on September 7 the debate in the Australian House of Representatives we called attention to an addition to the regulation which deals with the importation of secret medicines. We indicated that this referred to the regulation respecting medicines containing alcohol and narcotics, but the impression exists in Australia that it more probably applies to a regulation which has never been published, and which was drawn up in consequence of a debate in and resolution of the House on August 2, 1906. We, however, observe that on September 28, 1906, Sir William Lyne quoted the regulation which we referred to, and there is nothing in the "Hansard" reports of the July 1907 discussions to show that any other regulation exists with which Sir William's addition would fit. Nevertheless, it is well to know the opinion of those on the spot, which is as follows:

Sir William Lyne prepared and left behind in November 1906 a regulation which was found to go beyond the powers provided in the Commerce Act, and before any definite public action was taken he was advised that he had to appeal to Parliament for further powers. This appeal is being talked about, and Sir William Lyne says that he proposes to bring in a Bill for the purpose. It is quite likely that the Bill is not even drafted, but only talked about.

Under the Commerce Act the Government probably has power to prohibit the importation of any article for which exaggerated claims are made. Section 9 provides that "no person shall import any goods to which a false trade-description is applied." "Trade-description" includes "(a) a description, statement, etc. . . . direct or indirect as to the nature . . . number, quality, etc., of the goods; (b) as to the country or place in or at which the goods were made or produced; (c) as to the material or ingredients of which the goods are composed." In the case of grossly exaggerated claims made for any medicine, and any suspicious statement as to origin, the Minister would be able under these sections to require the importer or the proprietor to show cause why the goods should be admitted, and this is sufficient power under the Commerce Act to deal with the case where a medicine contained thirty drugs and was boomed as a cure for 360 diseases. British proprietors should be under no misapprehension; the regulations which came into force on January 1, 1907, are being really enforced.

We learn from the London Chamber of Commerce that the Earl of Elgin has acknowledged the Chamber's letter of November 5 regarding the importation and sale of patent medicines and foods in Australia, and informs the Chamber that a copy of the letter has been forwarded to the Governor-General of the Commonwealth for the information of his Ministers.

Alleged Inaccurate Dispensing.

A few months ago Dr. Collingridge, M.O.H. of the City of London, called attention to the inaccuracy which may occur in dispensing when mixtures are made up to fill a bottle whose capacity has not been determined (*C. & D.*, August 3, p. 219). Dr. Frank L. Teed, the city analyst, in his quarterly report, just issued, also deals with the matter, stating that 85.7 per cent. of the prescriptions were dispensed inaccurately. This has naturally created a scare, and the Metropolitan and provincial Press have taken the matter up. We may, therefore, recall the fact that only seven mixtures were analysed and six were supposed to be inaccurate, but in three of the six the amounts of the medicinal ingredients were correct; in two others the variation did not justify legal proceedings, and in the sixth case legal proceedings were taken and a penalty imposed. It is most regrettable that the matter has been resurrected

after the object of the inquiry has been met, Dr. Collingridge having at the time given a special warning to prevent any scare. We are pleased to notice that Mr. J. F. Liverseege, F.I.C., public analyst for Birmingham, has put the matter in the proper light when assuring a newspaper representative that with reference to local dispensing there is very little to complain about. He said:

The analyst, who only sees a third of the whole quantity [of a mixture dispensed], would form his opinion simply upon the proportion submitted to him, and although he might naturally come to the conclusion that there was a deficiency of drugs in proportion to the quantity of water, this would really make little or no difference from the patient's point of view. He might get a few drops of water more or less, but as the medicine was divided according to the marks on the bottle, he would get the proportion of drugs desired.

Chemists, he added, are a highly skilled body of men, and they would in their own interests naturally take due care in the dispensing of prescriptions. It has often been remarked that a pharmaceutical training is a great advantage to a public analyst, and the fact that Mr. Liverseege is a pharmacist enables him to look at this matter in the right light.

Lemon Oil.

The United States market for lemon oil has been greatly perturbed of late owing to the fact that several large parcels of pure oil from Sicily have been rejected by the Customs authorities (see *C. & D.*, October 19, p. 627), while others have been detained pending investigation. The Messina Chamber of Commerce took up the matter, and despatched Dr. Giuseppe Bosurgi, an Italian expert, to New York. The doctor's testimony appears to have had considerable weight with the Washington experts, as the latest advices are to the effect that several parcels have now been released by the officials. Much of the oil in question had been shipped by well-known Messina exporters, and the point at issue was that as the oil failed to pass the requirements of the U.S.P., it was adulterated with turpentine. At the time of the rejection of the oil, early in October, an endeavour was made to work up a scare here, it being reported that as a result of the position taken up by the authorities, "fifty tons of pure lemon oil will be thrown on the other markets, chiefly on the London market, at a time when no one wants lemon oil, and prices will be forced down heavily in one direction." Such reports were calculated to frighten holders into selling their spot stocks at absurdly low prices in anticipation of an impending "slump" in lemon oil. Happily such a crisis has been averted, and we are not aware that any quantity of lemon oil has been shipped from New York to London. The position taken up by the authorities has been quite untenable. The latest information about the matter is in a cabled message to the effect that the Washington Bureau has admitted that it was in error in regard to the lemon oil, the bulk of which will accordingly be released.

Developments in German East Africa.

The fifth annual report of the Imperial Biological-Agricultural Institute at Amani in German East Africa, shows that a great deal of useful biological, botanical, chemical and—indirectly—pharmaceutical work is being done. Dr. Koch, in charge of the German Expedition for the study of sleeping-sickness, worked at the Amani Institute from May 4 to June 12 last year. The point chiefly investigated was the extent to which the tsetse fly can be inoculated by trypanosomes, and the preliminary results indicate that about 10 per cent. of the members of the species are susceptible. [Newspaper reports state that Dr. Koch believes the crocodile's blood is an

intermediary host for the trypanosome, the fly feeding on the blood.] From Amani the expedition proceeded to the shores of Victoria Nyanza, but Dr. Stuhlmann, the Director of the Amani Institute, is continuing there his investigations into the physiology and anatomy of the tsetse fly. The experimental plantations at Amani are in the charge of Dr. Brawn, and among the medicinal plants included in his list of species under observation in the gardens are: *Aloe ferox*, *Cassia fistula*, *C. obovata*, *Cinchona Ledgeriana*, *C. robusta*, *C. Succirubra*, *C. Succirubra* × *Ledgeriana*, *Croton Tiglium*, *Erythroxylon Coca*, *E. guineënsis*, *E. nova-granatensis*, *Jateorrhiza Calumba*, *Pilocarpus pinnatifolius*, *P. racemosus*, *Strophanthus gratus*, *S. hispidus*, and *Strychnos Nux-vomica*. All these seem to be doing well with the exception of *Erythroxylon Coca* and *Strychnos Nux-vomica*. Among spices cinnamon, turmeric, cardamoms, pepper, vanilla, and ginger are being tried, and most of them are fairly successful. We have already mentioned the experiments with lemongrass, vetiver, and camphor which have been made in German East Africa, and to these perfume-yielding plants must now be added *Acacia Farnesiana* (cassie flowers), cananga (ylang-ylang), cajuput, patchouli, and yellow sandalwood. A large number of oil-plants are also under trial, notably olive, linseed, castor, coconut, cashew, palm, and kekuna (*Aleurites triloba*), or candle-nut. Natural dyestuffs are now of little importance commercially, but the few that still find a sale are being grown, such as annatto, logwood, and henna (used throughout Northern Africa by native women). Resins, gums, and balsams are also receiving attention, but most of these seem to do badly—e.g., *Acacia Senegal* and *Liquidambar styraciflua*; but the Peru and Tolu balsam trees are doing well so far, as are also the sandarac-trees.

Trade-mark Piracy in Siam.

A correspondent in the "Manchester Guardian" calls attention to the fact that in Bangkok there are numerous German, Italian, and Swiss import firms who almost without exception are selling goods bearing fraudulent British trade-marks. Their *modus operandi* is simple. They write to British firms for samples and prices, occasionally ordering very small trial shipments by way of proving their good faith. Then they send the samples to their Continental agents, asking at what rate they can be supplied with goods of similar appearance. Precisely the same thing is done with the labels, etc., and in many instances these are supplied really better in quality than the originals, and at ridiculously low prices. In cases where too accurate an imitation would be dangerous, these pirates—for they are nothing else—instruct their own people accordingly. Such frauds are extensively perpetrated in the fancy-goods trades, cutlery, and toilet articles. Recently a prominent importer at Bangkok stated that he had counted sixty-eight brands of alleged Scotch whisky on the local market, and was making a collection of most ingenious fraudulent labels showing how well-known brands are counterfeited. He further exhibited a circular from a Hamburg firm which offered to supply whisky "of any brand which is well known," and "with original corks, capsules, and labels," at 3s. 6d. a case, f.o.b. Hamburg. The correspondent does not give any specific instances of frauds in connection with the drug-trade, but they doubtless exist, and in the absence of any adequate local representative there would be great difficulty in taking the necessary proceedings against offenders. Bangkok has no proper Chamber of Commerce, and Great Britain has no regular commercial attaché at her Legation, that being the probable reason why these frauds are allowed to pass unchecked.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

THE first evening meeting of the session took place at 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on November 12. There was a good attendance, among those present being Messrs. M. Carteighe, C. B. Allen, and E. White, representing the Council; Mr. J. W. Bowen, Mr. E. T. Brewis, Mr. H. S. Collins, Mr. W. R. Dodd, Mr. H. Finemore, Mr. F. W. Gamble, Mr. H. C. T. Gardner, Mr. F. Goldby, Mr. W. F. Gulliver, Mr. E. F. Harrison, Mr. A. Latreille, Mr. H. Lucas, Mr. T. Maben, Mr. D. Mackenzie, Dr. W. H. Martindale, Mr. T. P. Morson, Mr. W. G. Northey, Mr. F. Ransom, Mr. Prior Robinson, Mr. J. R. Wretts, Mr. W. J. U. Woolcock, Miss M. Buchanan, and Miss E. Hooper.

THE SOCIETY'S "CODEX."

Mr. CARTEIGHE took the chair, and in his opening remarks emphasised the fact that these meetings are called in the by-laws "scientific meetings." He then called on Mr. C. A. HILL, B.Sc., to open the discussion on the recently issued "British Pharmaceutical Codex." Mr. Hill gave a temperately worded criticism of the work from a manufacturing chemist's point of view. The first point he remarked upon was the discontinuity of the monographs, giving examples from the glycerophosphates, where in some cases the solubilities are given in detail, and in others vaguely. The glycerophosphoric-acid monograph seems to refer to a 100-per-cent. acid, whereas the commercial acid is a 25-per-cent. solution of sp. gr. 1.12. In regard to the duplication of preparations, liquor cresolis saponatus and solutio cresolis saponatus are almost the same. Aldehydum formicum and liquor formaldehydum are separately described where one monograph would have sufficed. There are glycerinum carmini, glycerinum coci, liquor carmini, and liquor coci. "Are all four necessary?" was Mr. Hill's question. The acetic-acid content of vinegar 3 to 6 per cent. is unreasonably wide. The nomenclature of the work is in some cases unhappy, instances being acidum salaceticum and acidum salicyl sulphonicum. Formin is given as a synonym for formaldehyde, and also as a trade name for formamine. Benzinum has petroleum ether as a synonym, so that petroleum ether B.P. and the one described are two different articles. The name "Iris" is applied to *Iris versicolor* rhizome, while orris is "*Iridis rhizoma*." Unguentum refrigerans is a synonym for unguentum aque rose, but cold cream is given as a synonym for ceratum galeni. Creta cum camph. appears as camphora c. creta. Pulvis violæ means powdered violets, the adjectival form is required to denote violet powder. Passing on to galenicals, Mr. Hill said that a month is too short a time to elapse between the publication of the book and a mature discussion of the formulæ from the manufacturer's point of view. In the case of liq. opii sedativus six months is ordered "for maturing the solution." There is no fluid extract of euonymus included, a dry extract containing 20 per cent. of calcium phosphate being used for making various liquors, not always with instructions to filter. A liquid extract of iris is mentioned in the iris monograph, but is not included in the book. The use of chloroform for concentrated infusions is commendable, but in the case of gentian the aroma of the infusion, although nice at first, rapidly deteriorates; senega infusion has a predominating odour of wintergreen. The formulas for concentrated waters are not the best possible, and most of them require filtering after dilution. Reference was made to the confusion likely to result from the alkaloidal strengths of the dried extracts of belladonna, henbane, and stramonium. The formula for ext. cascarae sagradae liq. inspidum was severely criticised. The bitterness does not disappear in three hours, or even six days, and the finished preparation contains from 7.3 to 11.6 grains of unneutralised caustic potash in each ounce. Mr. Hill pointed out an incorrect statement in regard to the acetic acid strength of oxymel scillæ, and to an alteration in the basis of the mercurial strength of Lambkin's mercurial cream. Turning then to the chemicals, Mr. Hill pointed out the errors that will result from the adoption of International atomic weights for the chemicals and B.P. atomic weights for the test solutions. It would be enough

in the case of cream of tartar and potassium bromide to condemn samples that are really up to standard. As regards standards for chemicals, Mr. Hill regretted that nothing had been done to remedy the present unsatisfactory state of affairs, but that the B.P. requirements are perpetuated, giving as examples the mineral acids, vegetable acids, borax, and magnesia. He said: It is idle to say that if the tests are applied as they are intended to be applied, no "appreciable" reaction will be obtained. To use so blunt a test, to manipulate so poorly, to observe so inexpertly, or to interpret so falsely as to obtain no "appreciable" reaction for an impurity, and thus to find the substance "free from" that impurity, is a device unworthy of modern scientific pharmacy. There is only one way, Mr. Hill contended, and that is to decide on a proportion of the impurity which shall be the maximum proportion allowable.

A GENERAL VIEW

was taken by Mr. R. H. PARKER, who said that the advantages of the book are the adoption of short names for synthetic chemicals, and the use of a centesimal system of weights and measures; but he added that the latter can be made useful for practical purposes by adding in writing the convenient quantities. Mr. Parker would like to see the use of short names carried much further. Mention was made of the inclusion of parogens and paranolis, but the speaker demurred at the use of such similar names for two classes of preparations. The same objection was made in regard to tabellæ and tablette, and Mr. Parker thought some people would resent the introduction of a 1-in-5 essence of peppermint and a formula for phosphorus pills. He approved of the pharmacological notes as most useful to pharmacists.

OTHER VIEWS.

Mr. HARRISON said that what irritated him in regard to the glycerophosphates was that the formulæ were written in different ways. It was not a fault to include a large variety of preparations if they are in use. In regard to tests for impurities, the U.S. Pharmacopœia has the appearance of great accuracy, but more uniform results are not secured. Until manufacturers come forward with suggestions as to limits of impurities the tests are better vague as at present.

Mr. MORSON spoke of the difficulty of making analysts' and manufacturers' figures of standard limits agree. There is no definition of "trace," and it was here that the Pharmaceutical Society could have come forward with limits. He gave as an instance bismuth subnitrate, which is required to be free from more than traces of nitrate. As nitrate or subnitrate are always present, and cannot be excluded, a permissible percentage could have been stated.

Mr. GARDNER thought processes for estimating active principles should have been given, instancing the cases of hydrastis, jaborandi, and hyoscyamus. The monographs on papain and pepsin he considered excellent. He suggested that a weekly list of errata should be issued on a separate sheet, so that the Society's "Journal" would not have to be cut.

Colonel PRESTON thought that it would cause confusion now that a green syrup of hypophosphites is given official sanction, whereas the white preparation is generally supplied. He also made some interesting observations on the decline of apprenticeship.

Mr. MACKENZIE criticised the monograph on opium, the percentages of morphine mentioned indicating exceptional rather than average samples. He regretted to see moisture associated with the goodness of opium. All opium contains more moisture when new, irrespective of quality.

Mr. WHITE said that Mr. Carteighe gave him permission to include what he liked in the work, but he was "too honest and modest" to include standards until more information is available as to what is reasonable. The U.S.P. tests are not applicable to pharmaceutical chemicals, they are not reasonable and fair—in fact, are ridiculous, except as regards chemicals used in laboratory work. Mr. Gilmour stated at Manchester that the bitterless cascara, the formula of which had been mentioned, is satisfactory.

Professor H. G. GREENISH, as Secretary of the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy of the British Pharmacopœia, said he had been surprised to find how difficult it is to come to an agreement as to purity limits even where one or two articles are concerned, and he was not surprised that the compilers had not undertaken the task. He defended the inclusion of "Iris" and "Iridis rhizoma" by stating that the former is the title in the U.S. Pharmacopœia. The bitterness of the cascara extract is so far removed that it becomes palatable. He did not see much to object to in the opium monograph.

Mr. WOOLCOCK said that the two cresol processes differ in that one contains glycerin, which makes a product that can be mixed with water, and which stands for some time without depositing.

Mr. H. FINNEMORE would have liked to see the chemical formulae given of definite active principles.

Mr. A. WRIGHT thought a botanical synopsis and synonyms would be useful.

Mr. MABEN confined his remarks to the monograph on antidiphtheria serum, where the old idea that the serum does not keep is perpetuated in the statement that it should not be used after it is three months old. The practice in this country is to exchange any serum a year old, but as a matter of fact Roux, of the Pasteur Institute, employs serum even if four or five years old. The committee ought to have taken expert advice before making such an unfair statement.

A MEMBER, whose name did not transpire, said that he calculated the atomic weights for the work just before it went to press. He also ridiculed the idea that any pharmacist goes to the British Pharmacopœia for his analytical information.

REPLY TO DISCUSSION.

Mr. C. A. HILL, in reply, said that if Mr. White's honesty and modesty prevented him including limit tests, how was it that tartaric acid is to be free from lead, and citric acid is allowed to contain four parts per million of lead, and borax is to be free from lead and arsenic, but boric acid only free from lead? The present impossible standards have to be ignored in practice, and all that the manufacturers ask is that limits should be fixed.

Mr. CARTEIGHE, in proposing a vote of thanks to those who had taken part in the discussion, reminded the meeting that it took a long time to come to any decision on the limits of arsenic in food and drugs. His own opinion is that the question will best be settled by saying as little about limits as possible.

Mr. HILL: But at present many chemicals are required to be "free" from certain impurities.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: Yes, that is so. If the minutest trace of a prohibited impurity is present it gives the analyst an opportunity of saying it is there, and so condemning a sample.

The meeting then dispersed to refreshments which were waiting in the Examination Hall.

SOME AFTER-THOUGHTS.

THE tone of the meeting above reported was subdued—almost depressing. In some quarters there are expressions of enthusiasm regarding the Society's publication, but in others, especially in manufacturing circles and among experienced practical men, it is felt that the Council of the Society, or the committee appointed by it, have signally failed in the task which they undertook. They appear to have made the publication of a book their primary purpose, whereas this was secondary to the object of determining data and settling problems respecting unofficial medicines. For the latter purpose a corporate body such as the Pharmaceutical Society is most favourably situated; in fact, its position in pharmacy is comparable with that of the Royal Society in the domain of Science. Its resources are unique, and had only to be employed in order to produce an authoritative work; but it was made plain at Tuesday evening's meeting that while the book produced is stamped with the Society's authority, it does not embody the skill and knowledge of the most expert pharmacists, far less the great

resources of the Society for investigation, or its power to command the assistance of leaders in chemical and pharmaceutical industry. To this extent the work has set back the reputation of the Society as an authority in practical pharmacy. The intention was the opposite, and it would have been a distinct advantage had the Society demonstrated its fitness to participate *pari passu* with the General Medical Council in the revision of the British Pharmacopœia. Mr. Hill's admirably phrased and courteously expressed criticisms of specific details of the work show some directions of the failure, and his attitude proved that vehemence is not necessary to arrest the engineered laudation which has attended the advent of the work. But the criticism does not explain why the committee have failed. These after-thoughts may serve towards that end.

In the first place, the committee have not adhered to the Council's instructions as embodied in the resolution proposed by Mr. Carteighe at the meeting in August 1903, as follows:

(a) That a Compendium of medicines in general use, not included in the British Pharmacopœia, with such information as to laws, etc., as may be useful to chemists and druggists, be published annually by authority of the Council, the first issue to be published in January next.

(b) That the Journal Committee be instructed to consider the best method of carrying out the foregoing resolution and to report to the Council at its meeting in October.

Obviously the intention here was to produce an extra-pharmacopœial book, but the committee appear to have commenced their labours by annexing the monographs of the British Pharmacopœia, which are all embodied in it with trifling alterations here and there, and adaptation of formulae quantities. This line of action was fatal to investigation, and having started in this way it is not surprising that actual research became secondary to bibliographic cribbing. The data and information in the "Codex" have been drawn from many books, but the jumble is clothed so authoritatively as to have an appearance of originality with the uniformity of design which usually characterises works undertaken *ab initio*. Hence parts of it appear inexplicable to sympathetic critics and, for obvious reasons, unexplainable by the authors. A good illustration of this is Mr. Hill's remarks about the atomic and molecular weights in the "Codex" being based on the International Committee's table, while the test-solutions are on the B.P. system. The idea of using international atomic weights is taken from Martindale and Westcott's "Extra Pharmacopœia," the last edition of which embodied them for the first time in English pharmacy text-books. Here are extracts from the prefaces of the two books:

Extra Pharmacopœia.

We have calculated the molecular weights of all chemical substances... both in terms of the atomic weights of the British Pharmacopœia and those of the International Committee (1906).

Codex.

The atomic weights used are those adopted by the International Committee on Atomic Weights in its report for the year 1907.

There were changes last year in the weights of bismuth, nitrogen, tantalum, and terbium, which the "Codex" Committee have noticed in most cases—doubtless those referred to by a speaker on Tuesday evening. A contrast of mercury salts is typical:

Extra Pharmacopœia.

Hg(CN)₂ = 252.08
HgI₂ = 453.94
Hg₂I₂ = 653.94
HgCl₂ = 270.9
Hg₂Cl₂ = 470.90
HgSO₄ = 296.06
HgNH₄Cl = 251.506

Codex.

HgC₂N₂ = 252.02
HgI₂ = 453.94
HgI = 326.97
HgCl₂ = 270.90
HgCl = 235.45
HgSO₄ = 296.06
NH₄HgCl = 251.476

There can be little doubt as to the source of the "Codex's" figures; they lay ready made for the committee in the "Extra Pharmacopœia," but not a word of acknowledgment is given.

Mr. Hill also mentioned a formula in the "Codex" for liq. opii sed., which he could not criticise because the preparation had to stand six months to mature. He did not, we feel sure, dream that his remark again fixed the com-

mittee's cribbing propensity. Here is the formula as given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" and in the "Codex":

Pharmaceutical Formulas.	Codex.
Opium (10-per-cent.) ... 3ij.	Opium (in small pieces) 10.00
Slake lime ... 3ij.	Calcium hydroxide ... 1.50
Rectified spirit ... 3v.	Alcohol ... 20.00
Finest sherry ... 3j.	Sherry ... 15.00
Water ... a sufficiency	Distilled water ... a sufficient quantity.

Boil the opium (in small pieces) and lime in 15 oz. of water for half an hour, and allow to cool. Make up to 14 oz. with water, add the spirit and sherry. Filter, press the marc, and add proof spirit to make 20 oz. Set aside for six months to mature, and filter.

Note.—This gives a liquor of fine aroma and splendid therapeutic effect, but it must be allowed the time to mature, otherwise it lacks aroma. . . .

This formula was originally contributed to *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1886, by a leading manufacturing chemist, and one of our most distinguished retail pharmacists subsequently proved its value. The difference in the "Codex" quantities of alcohol and sherry is due to the "Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary," whose modification will be found below the original on p. 679 of "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

It is very easy to detect the cribbing in the "Codex." One has only to put alongside it the British Pharmacopœia, the two "Squires" and "Martindale," and with some patience it is not difficult to trace the sources of much of the "Codex" Committee's inspiration.

"Squire" is an authority on solubilities, and the two "Companions" appear to be the main source of the "Codex" solubilities. A few examples taken at random suffice to show the connection:

	Companion.	Codex.
<i>Boric Acid</i> —		
Water ...	1 in 25	1 in 25
Alcohol (90 %) ...	1 in 28	1 in 28
Boiling water ...	1 in 3	1 in 3
Glycerin ...	1 in 4	1 in 4
<i>Ammon. Benzoate</i> —		
Water ...	1 in 6	1 in 6
Alcohol (90 %) ...	1 in 22	1 in 22
Glycerin ...	1 in 8	1 in 8
<i>Caffeine Citrate</i> —		
Water ...	1 in 32	1 in 32
Alcohol (90 %) ...	1 in 22	1 in 22
A mixture of 1 part of Alcohol (90 %) with 2 parts of Chloroform ...	1 in 10	Same mixture ! 1 in 10
<i>Iodoform</i> —		
Water ...	Very sparingly.	Very sparingly.
Alcohol (90 %) ...	1 in 120	1 in 120
Ether ...	1 in 7	1 in 7
Chloroform ...	1 in 14	1 in 14
Olive Oil ...	1 in 30	1 in 30
Fixed and volatile Oils ...	Also soluble.	Also soluble.
Glycerin ...	About 1 in 100	About 1 in 100
Carbon Bisulphide ...	1 in 3½	1 in 3½
Petroleum spirit ...	Sparingly.	Benzol, very sparingly.
<i>Sodium Iodide</i> —		
Water ...	11 in 6	1 in 0.55
Alcohol (90 %) ...	1 in 3	1 in 3
Glycerin ...	1 in 1	1 in 1
<i>Thymol</i> —		
Water ...	1 in 1500	1 in 1500
Alcohol (90 %) ...	8 in 3	8 in 3
Ether ...	8 in 3	8 in 3
Chloroform ...	8 in 5	8 in 5
Glycerin ...	1 in 190	1 in 190
Petroleum Spirit ...	1 in 6	1 in 6
Turpentine Oil ...	1 in 3	1 in 3
Glacial Acetic Acid ...	4 in 3	4 in 3
KOH solution ...	1 in 6	1 in 6
Olive Oil ...	1 in 2	—

Besides the figures from Squire's "Companion" the Committee has also drawn upon the "Pocket Companion,"

which gives many solubilities not to be found elsewhere, and which have been derived from independent experiments. The cribbing is in this case emphasised by the somewhat peculiar figures adopted by Squire and also the choice of solvents. In the "Companion" these do not follow any definite plan, but appear to have been dealt with as the questions have arisen. Sometimes Squire gives a figure for the substance in chloroform and ether, in other cases he does not, and the same applies to other solvents, such as olive oil and oil of turpentine. These peculiarities are repeated in the "Codex." Among the examples we have quoted iodoform is a typical proof of cribbing. Here we have a substance in which the choice of solvents as well as the figures are the same in Squire's "Companion" and the "Codex." Squire also has a special solubility note which we reprint with the corresponding note in the "Codex":

Companion.

Precipitated iodoform frequently gives a turbid solution in chloroform and carbon bisulphide, owing to the dampness of the powder, the adhering water being insoluble. It rapidly dries on free exposure to the air, and will then form a clear solution.

Codex.

In the form of powder it sometimes contains a trace of moisture, consequently the solutions in chloroform and carbon bisulphide may be turbid; a short exposure to the air, however, will quickly free it from the adherent moisture, when bright solutions may be obtained.

The Committee have also taken solubility figures from the United States Pharmacopœia with a careless disregard for the fact that the U.S.P. determinations were made at 25° C. (77° F.) instead of 15.5° C. (60° F.), and that some of the solvents are of a different strength, notably alcohol 94.9 per cent., instead of 90 per cent., and ether, which corresponds with the purified ether B.P. sp. gr. 0.720, and not ether B.P. sp. gr. 0.735. The substitution of one for the other makes a remarkable difference in solubility figures, but the Committee have ignored this—a circumstance which demonstrates once more the fact that the "Codex" is not a work based on research by the Pharmaceutical Society's Committee. Their indebtedness to the "Extra Pharmacopœia" in the matter of atomic weights has already been mentioned. They have also gone there for many formulæ and therapeutic notes, and half a dozen examples are submitted below, but many more could be given:

Extra Pharmacopœia.

Liquor acid osmici, 1 per cent. Is much used for hardening animal tissues preparatory to mounting as microscopic objects; fat and medullary matter are blackened by it.

Lotio Resorcini. Syn. *Spiritus Capillaris.*

Resorcin 1, ether 1, castor oil 1, eau de Cologne 10, alcohol (90-per-cent.) 35.—Useful for dandruff and alopecia. *Soap and alkali must be removed before use or hair may be discoloured.*

Nasal bougies are termed buginaria. These are of elastic gelatin basis and are 3½ in. in length, etc. Urethral bougies—firstly of gelatin basis in two lengths 2½ in. by 4 in. . . . secondly of cocoa-butter of any length up to 6 in.

Tabellæ chocolate tablets, p. 993.

Sodium cacodylate has been employed in tuberculosis, phthisis, and consumptive cases generally . . . in pernicious anæmia, cancer, psoriasis, and other chronic skin-affections, and in all cases in which arsenic has been used.

Codex.

It is sold usually in 1 and 2 per cent. solutions, being used for hardening animal tissues prior to cutting sections. The acid blackens fat and medullary matter.

Spiritus Resorcin. Syn. *Spiritus Capillaris; Spiritus Capillorum; Lotio Resorcini.*

Resorcin 2.50, castor oil 2.50, Cologne spirit 20.00, alcohol, sufficient to produce 100.00.

Used for dandruff and alopecia. The hair should be freed from all traces of soap or alkali before the spirit is applied, or it may be discoloured.

Nasal bougies or buginaria, as they are sometimes called, are usually made of gelatin, and are 3½ in. in length. Urethral bougies may be either of gelatin or cocoa-butter basis, and of any length up to 6 in.

Tabellæ chocolate tablets, p. 1133.

Sodium cacodylate . . . is recommended in all cases where arsenic is employed, especially in chronic skin-affections, anæmias, malignant and tuberculous disease.

Ammonium Bicarbonate.—As a diffusible stimulant is less caustic in taste and more palatable than the official carbonate; is specially adapted for effervescing draughts.

Scores of comparisons similar to these could be given. "Squire" is also drawn upon for formulæ. An interesting case is aseptic wax:

Pocket Companion.

Aseptic wax.—Beeswax 87, almond oil 12, salicylic acid 1. Melt the beeswax and oil, strain through muslin, add the salicylic acid, heat to 150° C. (300° F.) in an oil-bath; allow to cool slightly, pour into stoppered bottles, which have been sterilised, and when cold add to each bottle sufficient aqueous solution of mercuric chloride (1 in 500) to cover the beeswax.

This wax was made by us for Sir Victor Horsley, who uses it for arresting hæmorrhage from cranial bones, by smearing it over the bleeding surface.

The impression that the book is a compendium of new formulæ is erroneous. After eliminating from it formulæ taken from the B.P., B.P.C. "Formulary," U.S.P., "National Formulary," the "Bournemouth Formulary," "Australasian Pharmaceutical Formulary," "Canadian Compendium," and other books, there is not enough left to give it the character of a new work.

We have selected comparisons with "Squire" and "Martindale" because these works are so well known and so much used by physicians and pharmacists, and an impression has been conveyed by the publishers of and commentators on the "Codex" that that work fills a want. It is right that it should be made known that the "Codex" Committee has drawn largely from these old-established and reputable books, and this without the slightest acknowledgment. The use of the "British Pharmacopœia" is, of course, the most flagrant instance. The B.P. is produced according to Act of Parliament, and its appropriation, as has already been indicated, is a matter for the consideration of the Pharmaceutical Council with reference to its resolution of August 1903 (not referred to in the "Codex" preface), while the General Medical Council may also have something to say about it.

The Week's Poisonings.

A DOZEN deaths have resulted during the past week from poisoning, four being misadventures.—Elsie Palfreyman, the three-months-old daughter of a Bradwell grocer, was given camphorated oil in mistake for castor oil by her mother, and died as a result.—Edward Jones (70), of Aberhafesp, near Newtown, a labourer of an inquisitive turn of mind, tasted a poisonous liniment "to see what the bottle contained." He died as a result.—Dr. E. Coop, of Hackney, was found dead on the hearthrug in his dining-room. He had suffered much from neuralgia, and death was said to be due to cocaine taken inadvertently in overdose.—The fourth misadventure was the poisoning of Emily Ream, a Manchester domestic servant, who had been a laudanum-drinker for twenty-one years, and at length took the usual overdose.—Mrs. Taylor, of Preston, a Holderness village near Hull, poisoned her baby with laudanum and then tried to poison herself, but did not succeed.—There were three suicides with carbolic acid: Ellen Carter, of Ascot; George Robson, of Burnopfield; and George Edward Wragge, of Dulwich.—Potassium cyanide, purchased in a shop in London, was taken with fatal results by Hugh Cutforth (23), at the Beacon Hotel, Crowborough.—Horace Brockman, of Colnbrook, "wrapped some cyanide in a cigarette-paper so that it should not burn his mouth," and (presumably after

Ammonium bicarbonate may be used as a stimulant in place of ammonium carbonate. It is less caustic in taste, and is specially suitable for use in effervescing draughts.

Codex.

Cera Aseptica.—Aseptic Wax.

White beeswax ... 87.00
Almond oil ... 12.00
Salicylic acid ... 1.00

Melt the beeswax in the oil, and strain through muslin, add the salicylic acid, and heat to 150° on an oil-bath. Keep in sterilised bottles, covered with an aqueous solution (1 in 500) of mercuric chloride.

Aseptic wax is used to arrest hæmorrhage from cranial bones by smearing it over the bleeding surface, and for similar surgical purposes.

swallowing it) he died.—Angela Fei (20) died in the Italian Hospital, London, from mercurial poisoning. Before her death she said she wanted to kill herself.—George Henry Pearse (28), a bricklayer's labourer, poisoned himself at Hampstead by drinking a quantity of spirit of salt.—A Bolton woman, named Fanny Atherton (42), committed suicide by taking a quantity of sulphuric acid. The bottle had no label on, and at the inquest the Coroner commented upon the easy manner in which such poisons could be obtained.

Festivities.

Teesside Chemists' Association.

THE Middlesbrough section of this Association held their second whist-drive at Crosby's Café on Wednesday evening, November 13. Nearly forty ladies and gentlemen were present. After a slight delay, play commenced in earnest and lasted nearly three hours, after which a light supper was provided. Mr. Brayshaw, the President, made the presentations, which were: First ladies' prize, Mrs. Harrington; first gentlemen's prize, Mr. Sowerby; ladies' consolation prize, Mrs. Richardson; booby prize, Mr. Lee. Mr. Thompson acted as M.C., and carried out his duties in a most business-like manner. The preliminary arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. Brackenbury, Coltman, Lee, and Thompson. At 10.30 a very pleasant evening closed with a vote of thanks to the M.C.

Stockport Chemists' Association.

A most enjoyable evening was spent by the members of the Association at the County Restaurant, St. Petersgate, on November 6, the attendance numbering about forty, the presence of the ladies adding very much to the sociability of the evening. The President (Mr. J. F. Royse) and Mrs. Royse made everyone feel quite at home. A varied and interesting programme, consisting of sentimental and humorous songs, recitations, stump speeches, etc., was greatly enjoyed. Towards the close of the proceedings Mr. Crossley, of Cheadle Hulme, voiced the thanks of those present to the committee, saying that he hoped the first social held by the Association would be the forerunner of many such pleasant evenings. Mr. Bowden seconded. The proceedings were brought to a close shortly after 11 o'clock.

The Victors Dine.

THE annual dinner of the Burgoyne Burbidges Cricket Club, held at the Broad Street Restaurant, on November 8, was as successful and enjoyable as ever. There is an agreeable absence of formality at these gatherings which give them a distinction beyond the ordinary public function. The presence of the ever-genial Mr. Charles W. White (of India) in the chair tended to keep the merriment at a high pitch, and the contributors to the musical programme were nearly all connected with the staff at Coleman Street. This year the B.B.C.C. are again the winners of the cup in the Wholesale Chemists' and Druggists' Cricket Championship League, and after an excellent dinner had been disposed of and "The King" honoured, the Chairman presented prizes to the most successful batters, bowlers, and fielders of the season. There was most enthusiasm when the popular captain of the club, Mr. M. Dealtry, went forward to receive the cup. The Chairman congratulated Captain Dealtry on his team, and the team on Captain Dealtry, and the captain unaffectedly replied thanking "the chaps for working together so jolly well." Mr. Dealtry also won the fielding prize (presented by Dr. Hallows, of Scott, Morgan & Co.). The first prize for batting (an Indian cup presented by Mr. C. W. White) was won by Mr. Young; the second (clock ornaments, presented by Mr. T. D. Mitchell) was won by Mr. Selwood; while the third (an Indian bat, also presented by Mr. White) fell to Mr. Barrett. The prize given by Mr. E. J. Reid for the best bowler was won by Mr. Martin. The entertainment was not the least part of the enjoyment. Mr. Fawcett, who is a clever pianist, led off with the "Morris Dance" from "Tom Jones," and accompanied the most diversified musical selections with skill and taste. The violin solos of Mr. Mitchell and the singing of Messrs. Boeille, Haley, Robson, Hutchinson, Cowley, and Dr. Hallows were greeted with particular appreciation.

Winter Session of Chemists' Associations.

CANNON STREET ECLOGUES.

*Of the wind on the moor, or the song in the trees,
Of the rose of the dawn, or the sigh of the breeze,
We may sing not of these;
But of wisdom that's drowned in the Sessional seas,
Of the Tale that is hushed, or political wheeze,
We may sing you of these.*

PURITY.

While monarchs are practising peace,
And fixing the nation's security;
From their labours our chemists ne'er cease—
They are pining for chemical purity.
And each volume of chemical lore
Full gaily (and lightly) we skim it;
And we say: "Give us this but no more,
You must always keep well in the limit."
But our Umneys, our Parrys, our Hills,
And our Southalls relieve us of terror,
For they tell us that, free of all ills
We may work—in the Limit of Error.
And although in the glare of the lab.,
E'en a trace all our triumph may shatter;
In the taking of drugs (pray don't blab),
Absolute purity really don't matter.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at 156 King Street, Yarmouth, on Thursday evening, November 7. Mr. Harvey Palmer (President) in the chair. A good muster of members was present. Among many letters for consideration, those of the Benevolent Fund candidates were adjourned till next meeting.

Ashton-under-Lyne Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the George and Dragon Hotel, Market Place, on November 7. Mr. James Avison (President) in the chair. A lengthy discussion took place on current pharmaceutical matters, especially with regard to the sale and storage of scheduled poisons and the advisability of strictly adhering to the requirements of the Pharmacy Acts.

Blackpool Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Palatine Hotel on Friday, November 8. Mr. Johnson (President) in the chair. It was decided to hold the annual dinner on Thursday, January 23. The President was appointed delegate to the meeting of local Associations to be held at Preston. Mr. Johnson then read a paper on the "Pharmaceutical Codex," which, he thought, would prove useful to doctors and chemists, and be one means of enabling doctors to prescribe remedies for their patients and getting them reliable and uniform preparations without having to resort to proprietary articles. The chemist would be able to make the preparations at the counter instead of having to keep a large stock of proprietary articles. He also drew attention to new remedies and synthetic preparations. Mr. Laurie proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Johnson for his paper, which Mr. Greenwood seconded and Mr. Mayson and Mr. Huddart supported.

Derby Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at the Bell Hotel, Derby, on Monday, November 11. Mr. Readman presiding in the absence of Mr. Hart, the retiring President. There were present: Messrs. Hefford, Haynes, Elmitt, Blaylock, Pattison, Joy, Turner, Heath, Riley, Buntor, and Taylor.

Mr. Hart desired to be relieved of his duties during the coming session, and a cordial and unanimous vote of thanks was passed to him for his services during the past four years. Mr. Readman was elected to the vacancy, and signified his entry into office by a plea for increased activity of the Association during the next year. It was decided to hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. At the December meeting it is proposed to have a

discussion on the relation of chemists to the poison laws, with a view to arriving at some uniform method of procedure in those cases into which an element of doubt enters. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance. The annual dinner is arranged to take place on January 15.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Royal Hotel on Tuesday evening, November 12. Mr. H. R. Jackson (President) in the chair. There was a good attendance.

Mr. R. Carson was deputed to attend the Pharmaceutical Society's private meeting at Leeds on November 21.

"UNSCRUPULOUS PIRATE" was the epithet applied, in the course of a discussion, to a firm who are advertising a proprietary article in the district, the name and nature of which do not appear in the report sent to us.

FEDERATION MEETING.—The President reported on the meeting held in London last week, and spoke strongly in support of continuance of association.—Mr. Marshall also expressed his approval of the policy of the Federation, and it was decided that the guinea should be subscribed.

Mr. John Gordon read a paper on "Robbie Burns."

Hull Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Hull, on Tuesday evening, November 12. Mr. A. Richardson presiding. There was a good attendance of members. Mr. W. Staning (Hon. Secretary) reported that the recent Continental smoking-concert was very successful. Mr. Jones moved, and Mr. Newton seconded, the adoption of a balance-sheet, in which a small balance in hand was carried to an entertainment fund. Mr. Staning also reported the receipt of letters from the Hull Corporation, intimating that the Public Libraries Committee had removed the trade journals to the Reference Library as desired, and, on the motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Chapman, a letter of thanks was directed to be sent to the committee. Mr. Robson was appointed a deputy in place of Mr. Staning, if needed, as a delegate to the local organisation meeting held in Leeds. The next meeting was fixed for December 10, and the Chairman suggested that some member should read a paper on a trade subject.

Brighton Association of Pharmacy.

A MEETING was held by invitation of Mr. W. H. Gibson, F.C.S. (President), at his house, 122 King's Road, Brighton, on Thursday, November 7, at 9 p.m. There was a good attendance of members, among those present being Messrs. C. S. Ashton, H. M. Black, C. A. Blamey, Hall, Guy, Hewett, Gibson, J. Padwick, K. J. Padwick, J. Plowright, and G. B. Savage. Mr. Hewett was elected a member, and Mr. F. J. Flatman was elected to serve on the committee. The candidates for Benevolent Fund annuities were discussed, and it was decided that some support should be given to Mr. J. Leach, Crawley, at the forthcoming election. A whist-drive and dance was agreed upon, to be held early in the New Year, and arrangements were left in the hands of the Hon. Secretaries. The President reported that, in concert with the Education Committee of the Borough of Brighton, a full course of studies has been arranged for pharmacy students, and that in addition to the usual classes in chemistry, botany, Latin, etc., a class has been arranged for the systematic study of pharmacy, dispensing, and prescription-reading on one evening a week until May next (Monday evenings at 8.15 to 10), Mr. C. A. Blamey being the teacher. A pleasant chatty evening followed, the host with his usual generosity regaling the company with refreshments, and a vote of thanks brought the evening to a close.

Dover Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at the Hôtel Métropole on Tuesday evening, November 12. Mr. J. F. Brown (President) in the chair. Messrs. Cartwright, Ewell (Hon. Secretary), Ewell, jun., Forster, Grove, Hambrook, Ray, and Long were also present.

THE ACCOUNTS, which showed a small balance in hand, were adopted. The Hon. Secretary reported that no subscription to the Federation will be required next year as the Association had withdrawn from it.

OFFICE-BEARERS.—Mr. Brown was unanimously re-elected President of the Association, and for the twenty-third or twenty-fourth year Mr. R. M. Ewell was elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT.—Mr. Brown made a few touching remarks on the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Mr. Bottle. He also referred to the interview which Mr. David Gilmour, of Dunfermline, had had with Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman regarding the Pharmacy Bill, and stated that he had written to the Prime Minister himself. In this letter Mr. Brown pointed out that the intention of pharmacy is to secure the welfare and safety of the public by having retail chemists efficiently trained; but this has been unfulfilled in consequence chiefly of the 1868 Act applying as regards qualification to individuals and not to companies. He also referred to Lord Crewe's Bill, especially to Clause 4, which provided that "no company shall carry on the business of a chemist" unless in every shop it is supervised by a qualified man. The insertion of two words, "or person," after "company," would be all that is required, said Mr. Brown, and he concluded by remarking that "the safety and interests of the Commonwealth can only be provided for if, wheresoever and by whomsoever a chemist's business is carried on, the presence of a known, registered, and qualified chemist is insisted on."

The Association confirmed Mr. Brown's action.

The Secretary reported that Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. had presented a copy of Remington's "Pharmacy" for the use of the members.

MUCILAGE, ETC.—The members then discussed the preservative action of benzoic acid on mucilage and continued with a useful general discussion of various pharmaceutical questions. The President reported on his visit to 17 Bloomsbury Square on the occasion of the meeting of delegates. Although called with the nominal idea of receiving suggestions from the local Associations, the only point the Chairman wished discussed was whether it would be advisable to meet in the future. Mr. Brown stated that one of the points he was instructed to press was the increased social use of No. 17. The authorities informed him that this point was being looked after and a room set apart for social uses. Mr. Brown, on exploration, found, however, that the room was locked up and in darkness. He therefore was unable to ascertain its usefulness.

Poor Law Dispensers' Association.

THE annual general meeting was held in the Board-room of the Strand Union, Henrietta Street, W.C., on November 7. Mr. G. B. Walker presided over a fair attendance of members. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed, and the Hon. Treasurer presented a financial statement showing a balance of 3*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* and a membership of between thirty and forty—double the average for some years past. The Chairman gave an address, dealing with the period during which he had held office, the principal work having been the preparation and presentation of a memorial to the L.G.B., which resulted in a favourable reply as far as the younger members of the service were concerned. Mr. Walker concluded by regretting his inability to continue the office of chairman. Mr. Howell reported that a further interview with Mr. H. Bottomley, M.P., had resulted in that gentleman declining to take further steps to secure a more favourable reply, and advising the Association to let matters rest for the present. The meeting then proceeded to elect a Committee for the year. The following were duly elected: Mr. F. E. Trayner, Hackney Infirmary, Chairman; Messrs. Montagu Smith (Lewisham) and G. B. Walker (Greenwich), Vice-Chairmen; Mr. N. Colbeck, Highgate Infirmary, Hon. Secretary; Mr. A. Howell, Dalston Dispensary, Hon. Treasurer; Messrs. F. Noad Clark (Paddington), J. J. Smith (Marylebone), W. H. Smith (Greenwich), Lindsay (Camberwell), Anderson (Whitechapel), Turner (St. Pancras), George (Poplar and Stepney) and Lindsey (Islington). The members present then gave their experiences with reference to their applications for increased

remuneration under the new scale, in many instances with success as regards a 10% increment, in other cases by obtaining both the increment and the application of the scale, thus avoiding the necessity of future applications. In a very few cases the guardians had been unable to recommend, or the L.G.B. to sanction, the increase. Unanimous votes of thanks to Mr. Walker on his retirement from the chair, and to Mr. Hickman for securing, and the Strand Guardians for allowing, the use of their Board-room, brought the meeting to a close.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of this session was held at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, on Thursday, November 7, Mr. J. T. Hornblower (President) in the chair.

Mr. Percy Overton was elected a member of the Association.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. A. S. Buck mentioned that he had been called upon to dispense an application of menthol and glycerin. No strength being stated upon the prescription (that of a local gynæcologist) he rubbed the menthol down to powder and mixed it with the glycerin of a strength of 2 per cent. Only a very small amount went into solution, and the bottle would require to be shaken each time the application was required for use. Mr. Marsden suggested that the menthol might be dissolved in a little spirit and the solution mixed with the glycerin. The application was no doubt required to allay the irritation of pruritis, and he thought that the addition of a small amount of spirit would do no harm. Mr. R. C. Cowley suggested that the menthol might be dissolved in oil and added to the glycerin. Mr. H. Wyatt compared the glycerin of menthol to glycerin of benzoic acid, which he had been called upon to dispense. He had been in the habit of heating the glycerin and rubbing the powdered benzoic acid with the heated glycerin. The acid being only slightly soluble in glycerin a certain amount came out on cooling, and after the preparation had gone quite cold the benzoic acid, which had crystallised out, was separated and the patient had what was really a saturated solution of benzoic acid in glycerin.

Mr. Percival moved that the Association should take concerted action in bringing the "British Pharmaceutical Codex" under the notice of local medical men. Messrs. Cowley, Marsden, and Wyatt were of the same opinion.

Mr. Cowley gave an address on "The Physiological Signification of Medicinally Active Constituents of Plants." He spoke of alkaloids, resins, and other constituents, and showed how the plant uses these to the best possible advantage as protective agents. The phenomena of osmosis, sap circulation, and storing-up of reserve material were very thoroughly explained, as also the care taken by Nature in the distribution of seeds. After a cordial vote of thanks the proceedings were brought to a close.

Leicester Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at Winn's Café, Leicester, on Tuesday, November 5, Mr. S. F. Burford (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. Avery, Cleaver, Blockley, Fry, Hearnshaw, Hind, Lewis, Martin, Ough, Squires, Tomlin, Thirlby, Ward, Wilby, A. E. Young, F. Young, and G. E. Marfitt (Hon. Secretary).

Miss Richardson and Messrs. Barker and Cross were elected members of the Association.

EDUCATION OF CHEMISTS.—Mr. E. A. A. Fry read a paper on this subject, with reference chiefly to Leicester facilities. Space does not permit us doing full justice to the essay, in the course of which the author outlined the educational requirements of the retail chemist, and the change which he believes has occurred in the class of men coming into the business. After appealing to employers to encourage lads in habits of study by giving time and assistance, Mr. Fry examined in detail the subjects taught by the local educational authorities and those required for the Pharmaceutical Preliminary equivalent examination, which revealed that several subjects, including Latin and French, are not included in the secondary education classes. He submitted that this is discouraging for the ambitious lad of lowly origin who desires to educate himself, and appealed to the Association to endeavour to secure an improvement. Deal-

ing with the opportunities provided in the town for the young chemist to prepare for the Minor examination, he contended that practically nothing is done, and that similar opportunities should be publicly provided for the pharmacist to become qualified as are provided for the plumber. A discussion followed, in which the President and Messrs. Hind, S. Squires, Ough, Lewis, Hearnshaw, and Marfitt took part. Mr. Hawthorne (headmaster of the technical school, who had been invited to be present), in a pithy speech, summed up the difficulties which the trade had to contend with. He maintained with other speakers that each individual chemist ought to make himself responsible for his apprentices passing the Preliminary if they had not already passed it before joining the trade. With regard to the further studies, he urged proprietors to make every effort to let their men off duty, and give them every opportunity and encouragement to attend the classes that are already provided. He suggested that they should ask the Technical Schools Committee to make arrangements for classes in botany, materia medica, pharmacy, and chemistry at suitable times, and he personally would do all in his power to help. Mr. Fry briefly replied.

EXCHANGE OF DISPENSING UNUSUALITIES.—Mr. Marfitt then introduced a discussion on this subject, suggesting that some arrangement should be come to locally, and after most of the members had spoken it was agreed that, if anyone would undertake the office of "registrar," it would most likely be of benefit to members. Mr. Marfitt agreed conditionally to undertake the duty.

Mr. Avery introduced the question of the new Weights and Measures regulations, but time precluded any useful discussion.

A recommendation from the committee to hold the annual meeting in the summer was brought before the meeting, and it was eventually agreed to hold it in future at the close of the winter session in May.

East Aberdeenshire Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting and dinner were held at Maud on Thursday, November 7. Mr. J. H. Low, Fraserburgh, occupied the chair. The other members present were Messrs. W. Cruickshank, A. Gall, and R. Alexander, Fraserburgh; W. J. McGregor and J. Walker, Ellon; W. M. Cruickshank, Turriff; W. Bremner, Port Erroll; A. Milne, Maud; W. Pennie, J. Collie and J. F. Tocher, Peterhead; Mr. D. Storrar, Kirkcaldy; Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, Edinburgh, and Mr. W. Giles, Aberdeen, were present as guests. Mr. J. H. Low was elected President, Mr. J. F. Tocher Secretary, and Mr. A. Milne Treasurer. After dinner the President delivered his address, which dealt with

DISPENSING AND THE SALE OF POISONS.

His opinion was that the Pharmacy Acts were never intended to be used as a weapon to maim the businesses of qualified chemists who, from financial or other reasons, did not have an additional qualified man. He dealt in detail with the recent Aberdeen prosecutions, then with the dispensing of poisons forming part of the ingredients of a medicine, and generally approved of the "Edinburgh-Glasgow Conference" view. He held it is not necessary to prepare a medicine in order to dispense it. A prescription, he said, is not necessarily a written order of a duly qualified medical practitioner, and, after quoting the Act in support of this contention, concluded by saying that rather than put customers through the impressive ceremony of "signing the book" he would write prescriptions, holding he was legally entitled to do so. He would thus keep himself within the law.

An animated discussion on the recent Aberdeen prosecutions ensued. All the members spoke, and deeply sympathised with the chemists involved. The President then invited Mr. Storrar to address the meeting, and he gave, in response, an able and lucid exposition of the law as it stands, and explained in detail the position and duty of the Pharmaceutical Council with regard to (1) the sale of poisons, (2) complaints as to breaches of the Pharmacy Acts, and (3) particularly as to the recent cases in Aberdeen. He made it abundantly clear that the Council had no alternative but to take action. Mr. W. Giles, Aberdeen, who was also invited to speak, recognised the Council's

duties, but thought that quite a different method could have been legally adopted by the Council or its officers in making the raid on certain of the pharmacists of Aberdeen. Mr. J. F. Tocher, Peterhead, moved, and Mr. W. Cruickshank, Fraserburgh, seconded the following resolution, which was unanimously agreed to:

This Association cordially thanks Mr. Storrar for his address, deeply sympathises with the pharmacists of Aberdeen at the present juncture, and records its view that the public should be protected against the illegal sale of poisons. Towards this object this Association recommends to the authorities the adoption of a system of periodic visitation of all places where poison is, or is stated to be, sold.

Mr. J. Rutherford Hill gave an exposition of the law relating to the sale of "any article when forming part of the ingredients of any medicine dispensed by a person registered under" the Pharmacy Acts. In concluding this, he said it is perfectly certain that a prescription is not essential in order to get the benefit of the proviso which set aside the general restrictions of Section 17 in favour of the special alternative provisions applicable to any medicine dispensed by a registered chemist. The pharmacist has three alternatives with regard to the latter part of Section 17—either to sell as a Part 1 poison, to treat the sale as a dispensing transaction, or to refuse to sell.

Mr. J. F. Tocher also contributed to the discussion, but he did not agree with the views of Mr. Hill or Mr. Merson. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hill, and it was agreed to recommend the members to keep strictly within the provisions of the Act.

It was agreed to continue membership of the Federation. Mr. Tocher reported the proceedings of the Local Committee of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. Mr. Gall submitted a statement with reference to the Gall v. Slessor case, and the members generally congratulated him on its issue. He made a handsome donation to the funds of the Association. A cordial vote of thanks to Messrs. Storrar, Giles, and Hill for their presence at the meeting was carried with the greatest enthusiasm, and, after acknowledgments, an historic meeting of the Association was closed.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association

THE inaugural meeting of the session took the form of a social gathering, held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, November 12.

Mr. A. W. Southall (the President) received the guests at eight o'clock in the Windsor Room. Unfortunately he was not accompanied by Mrs. Southall, who has had to undergo a severe operation, and is not yet allowed out of doors. The large gathering included Messrs. Thomas Barclay, A. W. Gerrard, Wilfred Southall, J. Wakefield, G. E. Perry, J. Poole, F. H. Alcock, Chas. Thompson, W. Buckingham, F. J. Livermore (City Analyst), Wm. Rigby, C. F. Jarvis, J. A. Radford (Hon. Secretary), Chas. Corfield, T. Wakefield, C. J. Arblaster, F. Barlow, E. W. Mann, F. G. Homer, A. F. Colman, and R. Warner (Wolverhampton), Josiah Austin, O. Evans, A. H. Harries, F. Smith, F. H. Prosser, A. W. Tranmer, Dr. Hall Edwards, J. Atkins, Collard, E. B. Blare, Maycock, Wm. Barclay, Adams, J. Hill, and Shaw Richards. After the reception those present went to the meeting-room upstairs. The subject of Mr. Southall's address was

PURITY.

In the course of it he said:

If we turn to a dictionary we find under the word "Pure" the following definition: "Free from all heterogeneous or extraneous matter." This definition covers to a very large



MR. A. W. SOUTHALL.

extent what pharmacists aim for in dispensing, and in supplying chemicals and drugs. On consideration we shall see that in the case of chemicals such a definition is in practice impossible, and with regard to those drugs we obtain from the vegetable or animal kingdoms the definition is not sufficient and needs certain qualifications. It is practically impossible in the case of a certain chemical to say that it is absolutely pure and that there is 100 per cent. of the chemical present and nothing else, but our definition is certainly the ideal, and we strive to attain it. The smallest quantity of extraneous matter in a chemical would place it outside the definition. In commerce it is almost impossible to produce a chemical which shall contain 100 per cent. of the chemical, but it is essential when dealing with substances required for medicinal use that they should be as pure as reasonably practicable, and contain no excessive extraneous matter. If anything else is present it may be dangerous or in any case weaken or alter the therapeutic effect which is expected by the physician.

Chemicals are offered in varying degrees of purity, according to what it is intended to use them for. There are certain chemicals which are used for analytical work which have to be purer even than those supplied for pharmaceutical use. This is due to the fact that the presence of a small proportion of foreign substance would render the chemical useless in testing; for example, if more than an infinitesimal trace of arsenic were present in hydrochloric acid, which is used in testing for the presence of this, it naturally follows that it would spoil the test. Even the presence of less than three-tenths part per million would do this, whereas that quantity would not cause its rejection for medicinal purposes. We do not use this absolutely arsenic free hydrochloric acid for medicinal purposes on account of the very high cost, and because this very minute quantity of arsenic does not seem to interfere with the acid for this purpose. On the other hand, there may be certain small quantities of inert substances in chemicals while not seriously altering their character naturally weaken them, and may be difficult of removal. The presence of a small quantity, say 1 per cent. of water, would not be looked upon as an injurious adulterant, but if a very much smaller quantity of a metallic foreign salt were present, which may have crept in during manufacture, it would cause the rejection of the chemical on account of its dangerous character and the effect it might have on the patient.

In the course of business a chemist may supply chemicals of a greater purity than is required. A baker who obtained pearlshes from a chemist and found unusual results in making gingerbread in accordance with an old and well-tried recipe, attributed this to an impurity in the salt—in fact, threatened to take proceedings for the loss he had sustained. However, an analysis of the pearlshes showed it to contain about 80 per cent. of potassium carbonate and to be pharmaceutically pure and practically faultless. The spoiling of the baker's gingerbread was not due to the impure chemical supplied, but was put down by the chemist to the fact that hitherto pearlshes with a much smaller potassium-carbonate percentage had been used.

Generally speaking, owing to the progress science has made, we get chemicals nearly pure, but continually we are finding out certain impurities in very small quantities in chemicals which were not previously suspected. [The arsenic scare of a few years ago was mentioned.]

A great many chemicals contain, or are likely to contain, metallic impurities which creep in during manufacture, and the British Pharmacopœia in 1898 recognised this, especially in such articles as citric and tartaric acids, and every analyst now is on the look-out for these. In the manufacture of chemicals in some instances great carelessness, or it may be something worse, has been shown, and it has been frequently found necessary to demand greater purity in chemicals. A very practical example of this is cream of tartar. The 1885 Pharmacopœia was satisfied with a cream of tartar which only contained 92 per cent. of bitartrate, and it was not easy even then to obtain a sample which would pass this test; but there seemed to be no reason why it should not be much purer, and in the 1898 Pharmacopœia the standard was raised, making it 97.5 per cent. It was doubted at the time whether the demand for a cream of tartar of this strength would be satisfied, and out of forty-two parcels of cream of tartar which came under my notice about the time the last Pharmacopœia was published only two would have passed the latter test. The result of the demand for pure cream of tartar has been that the production has improved considerably, and it is quite possible to get to-day a cream of tartar testing upwards of 99 per cent. of real bitartrate of potassium.

Mr. Southall proceeded to speak on similar lines upon drugs obtained from the vegetable kingdom, especially dealing with the methods of estimating their value and standardising preparations made from them. In concluding, Mr. Southall said the necessity for the latter course was strongly emphasised and the methods described

generally. The more regard the pharmacist takes of the purity of his chemicals and of the standardisation of his preparations, the more will the medical man have confidence in him, and we may rest assured that this confidence will also be shared by the public.

Mr. J. Wakefield, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Southall for his address, said no doubt to-morrow they would see that the public got everything pure. The only trouble would be when a customer came in for some bicarbonate of soda and the chemist wanted 9d. per lb. for it and the customer only wanted to pay 2d. (Laughter.) But on Mr. Southall's own showing it did not do to always sell drugs pure, because they ran the risks of spoiling the gingerbread. (Laughter.)

Mr. G. E. Perry, in seconding, said the Association welcomed another member of the old historic house of Birmingham as its president. (Applause.) That house had given worthily and of its best to pharmacy. Mr. Wm. Southall, Mr. Alfred Southall, who was still with them, Mr. Thomas Barclay, Mr. John Barclay, who was all too early taken from them, and now Mr. A. W. Southall, to whom they all looked to maintain and carry on the traditions of his predecessors. (Applause.)

Mr. A. W. Gerrard and Mr. Warner added a few words in support of the resolution, which was cordially passed.

After a short interval for refreshments a pleasant musical programme was carried through.

Association of Women Pharmacists.

The third annual public meeting of this Association was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's Lecture Theatre, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Thursday evening, November 7. The attendance was good, and there was a sprinkling of the male element amongst the rows of fair ladies who filled the theatre. The feature of these annual meetings is an address by some distinguished woman, and this year Miss Constance Louisa Maynard, Mistress of Westfield College, Hampstead, was the lecturer. She is an honours woman of Girton College and took the Moral Science Tripos at Cambridge in 1875. She lectures chiefly in the Divinity Faculty of her College. Miss Margaret Buchanan, Vice-President of the Association, came into the Lecture Theatre with Miss Maynard at 8 o'clock, Miss E. S. Hooper, B.Sc., and Miss G. E. Barltrop, Hon. Secretaries, and Miss N. Renouf, B.Sc., supporting them on the left and right.

Miss Buchanan at once got to business by briefly sketching what the Association had done for its members during the past year. Admitting that but one per cent. of those engaged in pharmacy are women, Miss Buchanan said with gratification that three-fourths of the qualified women belong to the Association. This declaration was heartily applauded by the men in the meeting, and the ladies smiled superior. Miss Buchanan further said that during the year the bureau had got situations for ten of its members and had supplied many locum tenens. Then the thorny question, Are women in pharmacy underselling men? was touched upon, and Miss Buchanan shyly deprecated any intention of that nature, for "equal wage for equal work" is the motto which all progressive women stick by. After other remarks about the Association, Miss Buchanan introduced Miss Maynard, who spoke extemporaneously on the subject,



MISS BUCHANAN.

OURSELVES : AN ANALYSIS.

This proved to be an interesting, ethical, and philosophical discourse, for which another title might be the power of mental concentration, for early in the lecture Miss Maynard pictured to her hearers the field of effort with a margin round it to which we seem born to wander, but which faculty may be overcome by education and training.

This picture recurred throughout the lecture, many examples being given which were decidedly helpful in concentrating effort on the field. Miss Maynard reduced "ourselves" (i.e. woman) to five elements: (1) the body, (2) the nervous system, (3) perception and habit, (4) consciousness and will, and (5) the ego or spirit. Each of these points was fully elaborated, and for the first time in the Lecture Theatre we heard the central truths of Christian practice tremulously but boldly voiced by a woman. Some points from the lecture deserve quotation, and these we select from the shorthand notes of the Association's own reporter as being as needful for men as for women:

The body is the nursing mother of the soul, and it must be thoroughly well cared for from every point of view; it must be sufficiently exercised and groomed to do the best day's work, and having bestowed this minimum amount of attention on our bodies, let us dismiss them from further attention; let us settle our plans with regard to how much food and rest and how much clothing and warmth we need, and keep to those plans. St. Francis used to call his body "My brother the Ass." Well, keep your Ass in good order, and make it do good work without complaint.

Concentration is a very strong element in success, and this is true both mentally and morally. It makes all the difference between a weak and a strong character. What we make our central interest that we get on with; it is the source of our desires. To desire and act is to succeed. Desire without action evaporates; every impression must have expression, or the heart gets a little harder and the will a little weaker, obedience a little slacker, and deterioration sets in.

Watch bad habits from the start. Make your nervous system your ally, and not your enemy. Hand over to its keeping all kinds of good things, and leave your mind, heart, and perceptions free for greater things. Print your cards of invitation, but write your letters with your own hand. Well-formed habits give reliability, strength, rest, calmness.

Character is formed by daily recurring strokes of effort, real voluntary choice each time. And the time is now—it is the fashion nowadays to ignore the power of evil, but its dominance is almost past belief; it acts by postponement and by wrong conception. In times of temptation, when settling a course of action, we must choose between two methods—inhibition by substitution and inhibition by repression. The former is the better.

At the close of the lecture Miss Maynard was heartily applauded. Miss Buchanan had the debate look on her face when she expressed regret that time did not permit a discussion. In response to her call, Mr. Walter Hills moved a vote of thanks to Miss Maynard for her excellent, helpful, and exhilarating address, and this Professor Greenish seconded, saying that he had seldom listened to a more fascinating address. Miss Maynard having acknowledged, the company adjourned at 9.30 to the Examination Hall, where light refreshments were daintily served.

Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association.

UNDER the auspices of this Association, Aberdeen chemists had an interesting conference with Mr. D. Storrar, Kirkcaldy, in Robert Gordon's College, on Friday, November 8. Mr. Storrar, being north at the East Aberdeenshire Chemists' Maud meeting, was desirous of encountering his *confrères* in Aberdeen to talk over recent events. A hastily summoned meeting was called, when a large and representative gathering of the trade turned out. Mr. Spence (President of the Association) was in the chair, and among others present were: Mr. J. Rutherford Hill (Edinburgh), ex-Bailie Paterson, Messrs. Giles, Hay, Ritchie, Tocher (Peterhead), Bruce, Craig, Dugan, and Hall (Woodside). The Chairman briefly introduced Mr. Storrar, who said that in ordinary circumstances it would have given him greater pleasure exchanging views with his friends in Aberdeen, and he wished to express his sympathy with those who were the unfortunate victims of the late prosecutions. He wanted to make it plain that the Pharmaceutical Society had nothing whatever to do with the prosecutions. They got their instructions from the Crown Authorities, and these instructions the Council had to carry out. He believed the report given to him as to the way those were carried out to be the true state of affairs.—Mr. Hay asked if Mr. Storrar thought such a "bag-of-tricks" tale as drawing four names for prosecution out of a hat, all practically in one neighbourhood, could be swallowed without some difficulty?—Mr. Ritchie, in a racy

and characteristic speech, likened Mr. Storrar's visit to a missionary campaign. Mr. Storrar as high priest with his henchman, Mr. Rutherford Hill, as private secretary. The Pharmaceutical Council were very much mistaken if they considered it necessary that they should come to Aberdeen to lecture Aberdeen chemists on the application of the Pharmacy Laws. The irritation was not caused by the application, but rather the effete and useless manner adopted by the Council, the employment of spies and methods more fit for detection of a brothel or common shebeen. They had but to adopt the same tactics from John o'Groats to Kirkcaldy, or even to Land's End, to ensure sufficient work to keep the Law Courts busy for years to come, and at once create such a fervour all over the country that the Government would very quickly relieve them of the administration altogether.—Mr. Simpson said the tactics adopted were terrible, and little calculated to do good to the Pharmaceutical Society or chemists, and much less was it for the safety of the public. Had the Council their boasted desire for the safety of the public, it would have better become them to have applied to their own officers for information as to the conduct of business rather than to have applied to the Fiscal, who had to, and practically did, apply to the nearest chemist for his information.—Mr. Giles, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Storrar, asked if he were right when he said that the Pharmaceutical Council knew nothing of these prosecutions, which are entrusted to an official, and that official being Mr. Rutherford Hill?—A discussion followed on the "Sale of Poisons," when Mr. Rutherford Hill read a thoughtful and well-prepared exposition of the Poisons Law in reference to the dispensing and sale of medicines containing Part 1 poison.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on November 7, Mr. W. G. Northey, President, in the chair. A paper entitled

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF MODERN PHARMACY

was read by Mr. W. Hales. He pointed out that Pharmacy has travelled far since the good old days. From the Alchemist to the Apothecary, Apothecary to Druggist, Druggist to Family Chemist, thence to the Pharmacist of to-day, we can trace an upward evolutionary progress which gives us little cause for lamentation. And if, in time to come, the trade in remedial agents may be reduced to a series of serums and a few active principles and antiseptics, we can anticipate that to the pharmacist of to-morrow, who is devoted to both the scientific and commercial sides of his business, and who to thorough technical knowledge adds an energetic business capacity and intelligent anticipation of public needs, the fruits of labour will not be wanting. Mr. Hales considered that the gloomy point of view of our calling is essentially the aspect of the inept, the lazy, and the un-thorough. The panacea for most of the ills and all the *maladies imaginaires* afflicting the present-day pharmacist is an increased interest in his practical policy and the methods and details of its execution.

Mr. Hales classified the details of his subject under three heads: (1) The pharmacy; (2) The cultivation of personality and the science of salesmanship; (3) The fostering and development of trade by modern methods. The fitting of modern pharmacies, he thought, shows continual improvement in the directions of fitness, design, and effect, but notwithstanding the upward trend, well-arranged and attractive pharmacies are possibly still outnumbered by those which are neither the one nor the other. The truism that "Order is Heaven's first law" can find no more fitting exemplification than in the retail pharmacy, and the other old adage that "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" may be much more frequently observed without disadvantage. The reason of failure to do business in this or that neighbourhood with certain side-lines is frequently found in the failure to attract buyers with a sufficiently-varied and well-shown selection, and it should be, in almost every district, possible to cultivate a profitable business in some side-line or lines if a sufficiently serious attempt be made. In the arrangement of stock it is imperative that some system be used in the disposal of the numerous items and the segregation of those of associated character. For drugs

and proprietaries the alphabetical arrangement is "the only way." The value of stocktaking was specially emphasised; without it, it is impossible to ascertain the exact progress made and to have that intimate knowledge of the details of one's business which is needful for its future welfare. The cultivation of personality and the science of salesmanship are matters of the full value of which the pharmacist is gradually becoming convinced. Mr. Hales thought that indifference to salesmanship on the part of chemists is a heritage. With it there is a feeling of loss of dignity which prevents the pharmacist recognising that it is as a merchant rather than as a semi-professional man that he must stand or fall. This excess of dignity is on the wane. Good salesmanship implies an inside knowledge of the goods to be sold and ability to present their selling points concisely and convincingly. Beyond this it requires the power to create interest and the capacity for tactful suggestion, and to these must be added in proper proportion enthusiasm and repose of manner. One of the most remarkable things in connection with advertising media is, in the opinion of the lecturer, that the medium which should be one of the most valuable to the chemist—namely, his window—is seldom made anything like real use of. Mr. Hales thought that there is no cheaper or more effective form of advertisement than the pamphlet if properly used, and in most keenly worked modern businesses the opportunity is seldom lost of enclosing in every package or communication some advertisement of this type. The personal typed circular letter was also referred to. On some such fundamentals, or from similar small beginnings, some of the largest businesses in goods associated with pharmacy have laid their foundations.

At the conclusion of the lecture a lengthy discussion took place, in which Messrs. F. W. Theakston, R. H. Brittain, A. W. Smith, E. Lee Merry, etc., joined.

SYNTHETIC CAMPHOR.—Before the proceedings terminated, Mr. H. B. Everson laid before the audience some specimens of synthetic camphor. In his explanatory remarks, Mr. Everson mentioned that this variety answered all the tests of the B.P., except that it is optically inactive. He thought it might be very useful in preparing camphorated oil for hospital consumption. Mr. Hales and Mr. Everson were cordially thanked.

Edinburgh C. A. and A. Association.

THE opening meeting of the thirtieth session was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's House, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, November 6, at 9.15 p.m., Mr. E. O. Rowland (President) in the chair.

SUMMER SESSION.—A report by the Secretary stated that three botanical excursions and one botanical demonstration had been held during the summer session. They were well attended and successful.

MR. WILLIAM HAMILTON, 6 North Bridge, was elected Assistant Secretary in room of Mr. A. Barbour, who had left town.

"UNION IN THE AIR" was the title which Mr. Rowland gave to his presidential address. He referred particularly to the union of chemists' assistants. The failures by Mr. C. E. Pickering and Mr. E. S. Francis to unite assistants were alluded to, and Mr. Rowland outlined his own ideas about the matter, the following embodying his definite proposals:

"No service to the unqualified" should be one of the main planks in the platform, and employers should see to it that assistants would not have to reconsider that attitude by making it worth their while to adhere to it. The benefits they would derive from its accomplishment would justify them in supporting a scheme on these lines. What chance a union among assistants has of effecting a remedy depends, of course, upon the extent to which it appeals to assistants at large. Half-hearted support in this self-denying ordinance would provide the opportunity for the outsider to contribute to the downfall of the would-be reformer.

Branches of some central union should be formed in all large towns with a system of transfer from one branch to another. Each branch should be the centre at the same time of something more than mere monetary interest. Both scientific and social efforts should have their part in the scheme; in fact, an association such as ours, with union aims grafted on, might very well provide a model.

It should run a journal, and have as an appendage an

employment agency and a fund to assist those temporarily out of employment, and might even advance small loans for such things as railway fares and outfits for new situations to those who by misfortune had come to the end of their tether.

Fixing of minimum salaries would not be wise, as it would tend to the adoption of that minimum as the standard. . . . Trade unionism, as we know it, although it has done much for the worker, is drifting towards the substitution of one form of tyranny for another. Rather let us see if an educated body of men cannot band themselves together for defence, not defiance—for progress, and not Socialistic stultification of enterprise. Let the merits of the capable be duly rewarded, for by so doing we shall build up a more vigorous craft. Again, what might be considered a standard salary in one class of business could not be imposed on all classes alike. There would be ample outlet for the energies of a union without touching this thorny question which would impede its progress. The National Union of Teachers in England has succeeded without that.

Provision should be made for legal assistance, and advice to members. Legislation should be watched, and machinery for voicing assistants' requirements well organised. Its membership should be open to assistants, qualified and unqualified, and apprentices. The latter have interests to be watched over, and, of course, they will not always remain such, and are better to begin early. A union must not be a drag upon pharmaceutical progress, for what assistant does not hope in some degree to exchange his state for that of proprietor?

Mr. Lunan (Chairman of the Executive) said it was twenty-one years since he became a member of the Association, and as a past President he had pleasure in moving a hearty vote of thanks to the President for his very interesting and suggestive address. Papers of world-wide repute had been read at their meetings and suggestions made therein had been adopted in the British Pharmacopœia. The President's title "Union in the Air," reminded him of the remark made by the President-elect of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, who said at Manchester that he regarded the Conference as the heart and soul of British pharmacy. He thought more union among assistants would be an advantage both to themselves and to their employers, for their interests were the same.

Mr. C. F. Henry seconded the motion, and said in the idea of a union among assistants he felt sure they would have the help of employers in any movement for the betterment of their conditions. On the question of union, his idea was that instead of starting a new organisation they should seek to federate the existing associations. A scheme of this kind had been announced some time ago, but he observed that the support was so meagre that the organisers had returned the subscriptions to the donors.

Messrs. Forret, Glass, and Brazier also supported the motion, which was unanimously adopted. The Vice-President having conveyed the thanks to the President, the latter suitably replied.

Births.

MACKIE.—At 9 Cromwell Square, Crosshill, Glasgow, the wife of George Mackie, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

PHILLIPS.—At 125 Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, on November 11, the wife of W. A. Phillips, chemist and druggist, of a son.

Deaths.

BAINE.—At Alderbrae, Belmont, Ayr, on November 12, Mr. John Alexander Baine, chemist, formerly of Greenock.

GRAHAM.—At Baltinglass, on November 7, of acute pneumonia, John Henry Felton Graham, L.P.S.I., Beechwood Avenue, Ranelagh, only son of the late J. J. Graham, proprietor of the State Pharmacy, Westmoreland Street, Dublin. The funeral took place on November 9 from the Medical Hall, 35 Rathmines Road, for Mount Jerome Cemetery.

UNSWORTH.—At Birkenhead, suddenly, on November 1, Mr. Elijah Unsworth, manager for Mr. W. T. Fore, chemist and druggist, at 50 Sandford Street, Birkenhead, aged twenty-four.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., November 14.

THE effects of the high Bank rate continue to exercise a depressing influence in all branches of Mincing Lane produce, and in consequence of the keen desire to turn goods into money, as a result of the "pinch," the tendency of values generally is towards lower rates. Further substantial declines are announced in morphine salts and codeine and salts, again due to the easier prices of opium. Citric acid is the turn weaker, but cream of tartar, although now more plentiful, remains firm. Bromides are weak. Cod-liver oil is easier, while the demand is below normal. Guinea grains are cheaper. Balsam copaiba is tending higher. New lemon oil for shipment is offered at easier rates, and demand is fairly good. Ipecacuanha has been sold at 1d. decline for East Indian. Quillaia is firmer. Turpentine is lower, and shellac has somewhat recovered from the depression, but the tone is extremely quiet. Quinine is nominal. The changes of the week are indicated as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Balsam tolu (c.i.f.)	Camphor (China crude)	Citric acid	Codeine and salts
Aloin	Coriander seed	Cod-liver oil	Morphine salts
Copaiba	(Mor.)	Dandelion	Nutmegs
Quillaia		Guinea grains	Turpentine
		Lemon oil (c.i.f.)	
		Pepper	
		Soda nitrate	

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, November 14:—Business in drugs is quiet. Opium is lower at \$6 per lb. for druggists'. Cascara sagrada is also lower at 9½c. per lb. Hydrastis (golden seal) is unaltered at \$2, and peppermint oil is a shade easier at \$1.65 per lb. in New York. Curaçao aloes is a firm market at 10c., and refined camphor is easy at 68c. per lb. in bulk.

Heavy Chemicals.

The heavy-chemical market is slightly quieter in tone, but there is nevertheless a very fair average business passing on both home and export account. Values for the most part are on the steady side and seem likely to continue so.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Matters in this branch continue practically as lately reported, though soda crystals are moving somewhat more briskly and have a rather better tone. Bleaching-powder for some markets on next year's account is here and there a trifle easier.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA on the whole keeps a steady tone, but business is rather neglected. Present nominal values: Beekton, November-December, 12l. 7s. 6d. to 12l. 10s., and 1908, 12l. 7s. 6d. to 12l. 10s.; Beekton terms, 12l. 2s. 6d.; London, 11l. 18s. 9d. to 12l.; Leith, 12l. 5s. to 12l. 7s. 6d. to end of this year, and also for delivery in next year; Hull, 12l. 2s. 6d.; Liverpool, 12l. 2s. 6d. to 12l. 3s. 9d.

BARIUM PRODUCTS. There is no indication of any material change from recent reports in this branch. The principal raw product, that is to say, the mineral carbonate or witherite, is still in very short supply and production is fully taken up by existing contracts. The mineral sulphate of barytes is perhaps a little better, but prices continue very firm in sympathy with the carbonate. Blanc fixe, pure precipitated sulphate of barium in paste form, very steady at 6l. 15s. to 7l. 10s. per ton in usual casks. Pure blanc fixe, dried and in powder form, is scarce, and ample notice is required for

delivery. Present figures 8l. 15s. to 9l. 15s. per ton in 7/8-cwt. casks. Precipitated sulphate of barium (bye-product), dried and in powder form, has been well sold ahead at 6l. 2s. 6d. to 6l. 7s. 6d. per ton. Mineral sulphate of barytes varies from 50s. to 100s. per ton in accordance with quality, quantity, and package. Chloride of barium, although in somewhat better supply, is not over-abundant, and with steady demand the prices are firm at 7l. 10s. to 8l. 10s. per ton in casks. Pure precipitated carbonate of barytes is also in short supply and firm at 7l. 10s. to 9l. per ton in bags. Crude sulphide of barium, 70 to 75 per cent., 5l. to 5l. 10s. per ton in casks. Hydrate of barium, purest crystals, 13l. 15s. to 14l. 15s. per ton in 6/7-cwt. casks. Fused concentrated barium hydrate, 56 to 60 per cent. BaO, sold in 5/6-cwt. drums, 13l. 15s. to 15l. per ton, and crushed, in special drums, about 3 cwt each, 30s. per ton extra. Nitrate of barium crystals 19l. 10s. to 20l. 10s. in 6/7-cwt. casks, and 19l. 15s. to 20l. 15s. per ton for powdered.

Continental Drug-market.

BORAX AND BORIC ACID.—Difficulties have arisen with regard to the supply of raw material, and the production of the mines does not reach the required level. The deliveries of borax and boric acid are consequently slower, but whether the value of these products will be affected remains to be seen.

CARNAUBA WAX.—In October the imports of wax into Hamburg were said to have totalled about 1,200 sacks, and the total supply is now estimated at about 10,000 sacks. Holders hoped to be able to dispose of large quantities in the autumn, but these anticipations have been disappointed, and it is surprising that the importers are still able to maintain the present quotations, especially as the new crop will soon be due. It may be safely inferred that prices, which at present are at 260m. for current grey, will shortly decline further.

CITRIC AND TARTARIC ACIDS.—A French report states that there have been fresh floods in the South, and the Martignier Works have again been inundated. Without wishing to exaggerate the damage we may conclude that the manufacture will again be stopped for a time, and that speculators will endeavour to profit by the situation.

DEXTRIN.—The market tendency is still firm, but there is less demand, as it is reported that the crop of raw material is an unusually large one. In consequence of this the demand for potato-products was less brisk, and it is possible that the market may decline later on. Quotations for dextrin are at 29m. to 30m. per 100 kilos.

CUBEBS.—The position of this product (says a French report) has been considerably modified during the last few months. The exports from Java, which ten years ago amounted to 250,000 kilos., have fallen during the last three years to 150,000 kilos., of which three-fourths are absorbed by America, where a new employment has been found for cubebs. The decrease in the exports is said to be due to want of enterprise on the part of the planters, who, in view of the low prices, have given up the cultivation. Better prices would assuredly encourage further plantation, but as the trees do not produce before five or six years, it will be necessary to wait for that period before prices such as those which prevailed say fifteen years ago can again be obtained.

POTASH CHLORATE.—The French makers announce that the prices for 1908 will remain the same as those now current.

SAFFRON.—Recent reports from Spain confirm the statements as to the decrease in the new crop. The first supplies were sold at about 85f. Holders of old stock have become cautious, prices are well maintained, and if the demand increases quotations will probably be advanced.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Considerable competition exists owing to low offers from abroad. These efforts have met with a certain amount of success as far as "transit" trade is concerned, but as regards inland consumption foreign competition has not been so successful.

VALERIAN.—The supply of Harz root has, as usual, been very quickly disposed of, and there is also a lively demand for the Thüringian product. The crop has not been large, so that about 85m. is asked for air-dried root. It is probable that the production will be quickly disposed of and that there will be no decline in price later.

London Markets.

ACETONE.—During the year ending March 31, 1907, the War Office purchased acetone from abroad valued at 22,925f.

ACID, CITRIC, is a shade easier at 1s. 8½d. per lb. for either English or foreign.

ACID, TARTARIC, is very steady at 11¼d. for English and 11d. for foreign.

ALOES.—The s.s. *Norman* from Mossel Bay has brought 80 packages. A few hundred gourds of Curaçao aloes have arrived, but no boxes or aloes in kegs. Deliveries are fair, including small sales of Socotrine in kegs at 90s.

ALOIN is firmer at 3s. 6d. per lb. spot, but in New York a much higher figure is quoted.

ANTIMONY.—The improvement which set in early in September and eventually carried the price of English regulus to about 46l. per ton, has been pretty well sustained during last month, but the market has since relapsed into a lifeless and drooping condition. The present quotation of refined is now about 40l., or only 5l. per ton over the lowest record touched in August last, when the market was severely depressed by the liquidation of unwieldy stocks on the Continent. The general demand is at present extremely slack, and increasing quantities of all kinds of material have been on offer. The revival of inquiries on American account, generally looked for in the autumn, has not materialised this year. This is doubtless due to the general dislocation of the metal manufacturing trades across the Atlantic consequent upon the financial crisis. Under such circumstances the prospects of a reawakening of interest on this side are not promising, although there is reason to believe that the supply of refined is not so large as was the case in the summer, as the relatively low prices which have been current since tended to restrict operations, while the margin of profit to refiners on the basis of the prices paid for raw material has been rather inadequate. The supply of ores and crude antimony is more plentiful than for some time past. Australian ore running about 50 per cent. has been offered at 13l., while refiners are bidding 11l. per ton.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—A large business has been done, and the prices of genuine balsam have advanced, Maracaiba (B.P.) being worth from 2s. 6d. to 3s., and for shipment from New York 2s. 4d. c.i.f. is quoted for Central American. The so-called Maranhão from Hamburg is offered at 2s. 6d. c.i.f.

BALSAM PERU is weak, and prices are tending easier; 10s. 6d. is about the value for genuine on the spot.

BALSAM TOLU meets with a small demand on the basis of 1s. 1d. for large tins, while from New York 1s. c.i.f. is quoted, being dearer.

BELLADONNA-ROOT.—Good testing root is as difficult to secure as ever; small lots have been sold at from 65s. to 70s. per cwt.

BENZOLIN.—Good Sumatra seconds have been sold at 9l. 7s. 6d., fair seconds at 7l. to 7l. 5s., and good thirds at 5l. 5s. per cwt. The 18 cases Siam which have arrived represent all qualities; 30 cases Sumatra and 25 cases Palembang of fair quality have also arrived.

CALABAR BEANS.—In Liverpool, at auction, 14 bags Sierra Leone on quay sold at 4d. per lb.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—At the close of last week the market for China crude was firmer, with a scarcity of sellers, 175s. c.i.f. being quoted, but this week 180s. c.i.f. is lowest, the spot value being 180s. also.

The exports from Japan during the eight months ending August were as follows:

	1905	1906	1907
Kin ...	1,619,948	1,845,267	2,461,639
Yen ...	1,750,000	2,237,000	4,068,000

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Japanese 1-oz. tablets are offered at from 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. spot.

CASCARA SAGRADA is steady but extremely quiet, with sellers at from 46s. per cwt. upwards on the spot.

CASTORUM.—The annual auctions of the Hudson's Bay Co. are fixed for December 11, but the amount to be offered has not been declared.

CINCHONA.—At auction on Tuesday 94 bales of East Indian bark, consisting of original Crown stem chips and shavings, weighing 24,700 lbs., were sold to druggists at 3½d. per lb., and a bale of small mixed, very broken chips at 1½d.; 68 bales of Java bark, weighing 11,424 lbs. were also offered and sold at 3½d. for hybrid branch, 2½d. for hybrid root, and 3½d. for Ledgeriana branch, the purchasers being Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ltd. The prices paid were rather easier, the average unit being 1½d., against ¾d. The sale was the smallest on record, and embraced only 11,000 oz. of quinine "in the bark."

CODEINE.—The makers announce a reduction equivalent to 1s. 5d. per oz. on the minimum quantity, and now quote as follows: Codeine, pure crystal, 12s. 11d. per oz.; ditto precip., 12s. 11d.; hydrochloride, 12s. 1d.; sulphate,

12s. 1d.; and phosphate, 11s. 3d.; 70-oz. contracts for delivery are quoted at a reduction of 3d. The above prices are net in fourteen days and no reduction clause.

COPPER SULPHATE.—The London spot price is nominal. In Liverpool November-December is quoted 21l. 10s. and next year 22l.

CREAM OF TARTAR is very steady, but prices are unaltered, 98 per cent. offering at 89s. and 95 per cent. at 87s. per cwt. The building operations in connection with one of the principal factories have been temporarily retarded by the renewed floods, an account of which is given below. A report from Paris, dated November 7, stated that the Midi has been swept by fresh floods, and the damage caused is very serious. The low-lying region between Perpignan and Montpellier has been devastated, and the railway communication is totally interrupted.

DANDELION is now cheaper, Continental dealers now asking for offers; 65s. c.i.f. is about the price.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—The 13 cases, the arrival of which we noted last week, proved to be part reboiled lump. This parcel practically represents all the first-hand stock in London.

ERGOT is in little more inquiry, with small sales reported at 11½d. net on spot for Russian, and the same figure is also asked for shipment from Hamburg.

GAMBIER.—Small sales of *cubes* have been made at 31s. spot for good.

GAMEOGE.—Five cases of Siam pipe have arrived, and 4 more are close at hand.

GENTIAN is steady with small sales at 22s. 6d. spot.

GUINEA GRAINS are rather easier at from 41s. to 42s. 6d. on the spot.

GUM ARABIC.—Soudan sorts are steady at from 37s. 6d. to 40s. for fair to good half-hard sorts. Ghatti is slightly firmer.

GUM SENEGAL continues scarce at about 31s. f.o.b. Bordeaux.

IPECACUANHA.—Some score of bales of East Indian ex the auction parcel have now been sold at 5s. 11d. per lb.; other descriptions are quiet. Eleven bales of Cartagena are close at hand.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Common natural is very scarce on the spot, the nominal value being about 9s. per cwt.

MENTHOL is steady at 7s. 2d. to 7s. 3d. per lb. spot for Kobayashi, and at 7s. for "outside" brands.

MORPHINE.—The makers announce a reduction of 6d. per oz., their prices for the salts and alkaloid being as follows:

—	Per oz.	100-oz.	250-oz.
		Contracts over 3 months.	Contracts over 6 months.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Morphine acetate ...	8 9	8 8	8 7
" hydrochlor. cryst. ...	8 11	8 10	8 9
" " pulv. ...	8 9	8 8	8 7
" meconate ...	10 11	10 10	10 9
" pur. cryst. ...	11 1	11 0	10 11
" " precip. ...	10 11	10 10	10 9
" sulphate cryst. ...	8 11	8 10	8 9
" " pulv. ...	8 9	8 8	8 7
" tartrate ...	10 11	10 10	10 9

The above prices are net fourteen days, and no falling clause. The previous reduction was one of 6d. per oz. in October.

NUX VOMICA remains very scarce on the spot. Small sales of rather dark Cochin have been made from second-hands at 12s. 6d. spot.

OIL, ANISEED. is quiet at 5s. 3d. for "Red Ship" on spot, and to arrive the market is cheaper at 4s. 7d. to 4s. 7½d. per lb. c.i.f.

OIL, BERGAMOT.—Good brands of new crop for December shipment are quoted 13s. 6d. to 14s. c.i.f., and prompt shipment 15s. per lb. c.i.f.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 11 that the tendency of the market is again easier, business having been done in finest non-congealing Lofoten oil at the equivalent of 65s. per barrel, f.o.b., and even this price is now difficult to obtain. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 11,316 barrels, against 14,347 barrels at the same time of last year. In London the demand is poor, business being below the average for the season of the year: 70s., c.i.f., is quoted for finest Lofoten oil.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS, is in fair inquiry, on the basis of 1s. 1d. per lb. for the lower grades (which are becoming scarce), and 1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d. for the finer qualities of B.P. Amygdalina is weak at 8½d. per lb.

OIL, LEMON, is somewhat scarce on the spot at the moment. Good brands realise from 6s. 9d. to 7s. per lb. To arrive the tendency is easier. Business was done last week at 5s. 9d. c.i.f., but November-January shipment can be bought at 5s. 5d. c.i.f.

Writing in regard to the citrus industry H.M. Consul at Palermo reports that the local association of lemon-growers—the Meridionale—has ceased to exist.

OIL, OLIVE.—In Italy the weather has been unfavourable lately for the olive-crop—*sirocco*, without rain—and as a consequence the olive-fly has made its appearance. In Sicily no serious harm is possible, as the crop is already too far advanced; but unless the weather changes soon the yield of the Calabrian crop will be materially short. New oil has arrived on the market, and is eagerly competed for, as old stocks are quite exhausted. According to a Reuter's telegram from Madrid, a general meeting of producers of olive oil was held on November 11, when it was decided to suppress the mixing of oils from oleaginous seeds with olive oils intended for export. At a further meeting of the Conference of Olive-oil Producers on November 12 it was resolved that steps should be taken to induce the State to grant an export bounty on olive oil. A resolution was also adopted in favour of the establishment of technical stations in the South American Republics, in New York, and in Japan.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American "fin" oil continues quiet at from 7s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. per lb., according to holder, and for H.G.H., supplies of which are now more plentiful on spot, 11s. to 11s. 3d. is quoted, according to quantity. Japanese dementholised (Kobayashi) can be had at 5s. spot, and outside brands 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10½d.

OILS, FIXED.—*Petroleum* is unaltered at 7½d. for ordinary refined American, and 8½d. for water-white, Russian 6½d., all spot. *Linseed* is about steady on balance at 23s. 3d. for spot pipes and 23s. 7½d. for barrels. *Rape* is easier, at 36s. 6d. for ordinary brown in casks and 38s. 3d. for refined. *Jamba* is 36s. Crude *Cottonseed* is also cheaper at 22s. 3d. spot, ordinary refined pale at 23s. 9d., and sweet refined 25s. 6d. *Coconut* oil is easier at 34s. for spot Ceylon, but *Cochin* is unaltered at 44s. *Lagos Palm* is unchanged at 33s.

OLIBANUM.—Sales of fair Bombay drop have been made at 45s., and fair Aden drop at 42s. 6d.

OPIUM.—The market continues almost inanimate, good Smyrna druggists' offering at 18s. per lb. Soft-shipping qualities continue to be firmly held, but sales are quite retail at full prices.

SMYRNA, NOVEMBER 1.—The market continues quite inactive, and so long as the autumn rains keep back we cannot expect a decline or a weaker market. Some of the principal holders are determined to maintain the position, as they expect higher prices later on, owing to failure of the early sowings.

SMYRNA, November 2.—The unprecedented slackness in opium has lasted from September 21 to this date, when one of the weak holders was obliged to sell three cases Yerli t.q. at 22s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f. There has been some rain in certain parts of the Interior, but as this was quite insufficient, the autumn sowings, which may be termed the basis of the crop, are very much behind, and this circumstance tends to make the holders all the less inclined to sell. The arrivals amount to 1,248c., as compared with 2,841c. last year at the same date.

A monthly report, dated Smyrna, October 31, states that the sale during October amounted to only three cases Yerli at the equivalent of 22s. per lb., f.o.b. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,248 cases, against 2,841 cases at the same period last year. The stock in Smyrna is about 1,988 cases, against 2,805 cases last year.

OTTO OF ROSE.—Prices of the various brands remain unaltered on the spot, and from Bulgaria the asking rates continue very high. The amount of business, however, is only small, and 23s. 6d. per T oz. on spot will still buy a good mark. At the close we hear that the tendency is higher, and that the market will in all probability go to 25s.

POTASH, PERMANGANATE, is steady at 36s. per cwt. for small crystals in large quantities.

QUICKSILVER is steady at 8l. 5s. per bottle in first-hands, and 1s. less from second-hands.

QUILLAIA is dearer, holders now asking 30s. per cwt. for small consuming quantities and 35s. for crushed.

QUININE.—The reduction of 4 per cent. in the bark unit at Amsterdam last week had no material effect on this market, and in the absence of any interest on the part of operators prices are unchanged at 8d. to 8½d. per oz. from second-hands for B. and S. and/or Brunswick. After the bark sale last week 5,000 oz. changed hands at 8d.

The exports of "quinine, quinine salts, and combinations" from Germany during the nine months ending September, 1907, amounted to 149,900 kilos., valued at 4,047,000m.

RHUBARB.—Small sales of small and medium flat high-dried of middling fracture have been made at 1s. 6½d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Small re-sales have been made at 2s. 2d. for grey Jamaica. The arrivals comprise 21 bales Lima, 20 bales Guayaquil character, and 5 of native Jamaica, while the 11 bales grey which were not in time for the auction last week are now to hand.

SENEGA.—With arrivals of several small lots the market remains easy at 2s. 3d. per lb. net.

SHELLAC.—The market has been a shade steadier this week, fair TN orange selling on a basis of 130s. Superior TN is worth about 137s. 6d., and matted to blocky 120s.; good and fine orange marks are slow of sale at 150s. to 157s. 6d. for matted to blocky and 172s. 6d. for free. For arrival, January-March shipment of TN has been sold at 104s. c.i.f., an improvement of 4s. on last week's prices, and "futures" are also dearer, with small sales of March at 107s.

SODA NITRATE is easier in Liverpool, ordinary 95-per-cent. to 96-per-cent. offering at 11s., and refined 96-per-cent. to 97-per-cent. 11s. 1½d. per cwt.; on the spot 11s. 3d. and 11s. 9d. are quoted respectively.

SPICES.—At auction, 57 bags Singapore *Pepper* sold without reserve at 4½d. per lb., being easier; 216 bags Ceylon were bought in at 4½d. for fair, and 4½d. for greyish; privately spot is quoted 4½d., and to arrive the sales include 25 tons Singapore for November-January at 3½d., c.i.f. Good *White* Singapore in auction was bought in at 11d. for superior, and 5½d. for fair. The market privately is steady at 5½d. for fair Singapore, the sales for arrival including 60 tons Singapore at 5½d. for December-January, and 5½d. for January-March and February-April. At auction, 105 packages Jamaica *Ginger*, and 135 bags wormy washed rough *Cochin* were bought in, the latter at 35s. 6d. *Pimento* at auction was quiet, a few fair realising 3½d. *Capsicums* were steady, 67 bags Nyasaland realising 48s. to 51s. for fair to good bright off stalk, and at 39s. for fair large red picked. A few bags broken quill *Cinnamon* sold at 6½d. *Mace* was steady, a few fair Penang realising 1s. 5d.; 10 packages West Indian sold, including fair at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d., ordinary 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d., and broken 9d. per lb. Wild Macassar was bought in at 10d. *Nutmegs* were lower at auction. Ten cases Penang sold without reserve, 69's at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d., and 83's at 7d. to 7½d.; 47 boxes Singapore also sold, chiefly without reserve, including 80's at 7d. to 7½d., 82's defective at 3½d.; 9 packages Java sold, comprising 72's at 7½d., defective and pickings at 2½d. to 4d.; 14 cases Ceylon offered and sold, 98's wormy at 4d. to 4½d., limed defective and wormy at 2½d. to 3½d. per lb. Twenty-four packages West Indian offered and sold, including 71's slightly wormy at 5½d., 82's fair at 6½d., 84's at 6d., 95's at 5½d., 114's slightly wormy at 4d., 122's at 4½d., 123's dark wormy and split at 3½d., 131's dark at 3½d., 135's rough at 4d., and 140's at 3½d. per lb. Fair Zanzibar *Cloves* (35 bales) were bought in at 5½d. per lb.; privately the delivery market has been quiet, with small sales, including January-March at 4½d., and March-May 4½d.; but on Wednesday

there were buyers at $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ in the former position; for January-March shipment $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $5d.$ has been paid; closing buyers on Wednesday at $5\frac{1}{2}d.$, c.i.f. d/w.

SULPHUR.—An advice from Messina dated November 1 states that the news regarding shipments of Louisiana sulphur to French and other Continental ports has been received with great consternation in Sicily. The Consorzio has reduced prices considerably, making distinctions between the various ports of destination according to their being more or less exposed to American competition. As both sides are suffering from the effects of this excessive competition, the prospect of an agreement is to be reckoned with, and may take place sooner than is expected. It would therefore seem policy to take advantage of the present conflict to make contracts. Published figures show that the output of Sicilian brimstone is not increasing; on the contrary official reports confirm a reduction of 69,113 tons in 1906, as compared with 1905 tons in 1905, while the number of exploited mines has fallen from 777 to 616.

TAMARINDS.—East Indian are finding a moderate outlet on the basis of $12s. 6d.$ for small consuming quantities.

TURMERIC.—Sales of Bengal have been made in quantity at $16s. 6d.$, c.i.f., for shipment, and Madras is steady at $22s.$ to $23s.$, c.i.f., for fair bright finger.

TURPENTINE has declined to the extent of $9d.$ per cwt. on the week to $35s.$ for American spot.

VANILLIN.—For some time past the sale has been in fewer hands, which fact helps to keep the article steady; $15s.$ per lb. net will buy pure in fair quantities.

WAX, BEES.—Small sales of slightly drossy unbleached Calcutta have been made at $7l. 7s. 6d.$ per cwt.

WOOD OIL.—Small spot sales of Hankow have been made at $33s.$, and for forward $29s. 3d.$ to $29s. 6d.$, c.i.f., has been paid.

Amsterdam and London Cinchona-auctions, 1908.

The following dates have been fixed for next year's cinchona-auctions: *Amsterdam*: January 23, February 27, April 2, May 7, June 11, July 16, August 27, October 1, November 5, and December 10. *London*: January 14, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 13, November 17, and December 15.

Export-duty on Burmese Lac.

A draft notification has been issued by the Burmese Government, notifying that it is proposed to levy a royalty of Rs. 10 per 100 viss on and after January 1, 1908, on all lac exported by sea from Burma, whether obtained from land at the disposal of the Government or not. (A Burmese viss=about 3 lb. 2 oz.)

GERMAN SPIRIT MONOPOLY.—The "Berliner Tageblatt" supplies the following particulars with regard to the proposed State monopoly of German alcohol: (1) The total production of raw spirit produced by the distilleries is to be fixed at 370 million litres pure alcohol. (2) The establishment of new distilleries will be made dependent on the need for them and subject to the granting of a concess. r. (3) The "Maischbottich" (mash-tub) tax lapses, and "register" price, amounting to about 35m. per 100 lit. s pure alcohol, is to be secured to the distilleries. Instead of the usual 20m. "contingent," only 10m. per hectolitre of pure alcohol is to be granted, and this only for a per. of ten months, after which the "contingent" is to lapse entirely. A distillery council is to be associated with the State monopoly administration for the purpose of advising as to the fixing of prices each year. The present syndicate, or "Centrale," is to be taken over by the Government, and those outside are to be acquired. The indemnity granted to the distilleries is to be based on the average profits of the last three years, and is to correspond to a 6-per-cent. capital value of the yearly profits. (5) The law is to take effect from October 1, 1908. (6) The State is to have an increase in revenue of 70 million marks from the spirit monopoly. There are some eighty large factories and about 100 small ones to be taken over by the State, and in addition to these there are numerous warehouses used by the wholesale dealers and a quantity of fittings, etc., the value of which will amount to about 250 million marks. The indemnities to spirit manufacturers and dealers may be estimated at about 750 million marks, so that the Government will require about 1,000 million marks if the monopoly is to be introduced.

London Drug Statistics.

The following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of October 1907, and to the stocks on October 31.

	October		Stocks		1907	
	Landed	Delivd.	1907	1906	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes..... cs, etc.	53	210	287	423	1,629	1,673
..... gourd	—	367	67	—	1,266	1,229
Aniseed, star cs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrowroot pkgs	826	1,167	6,109	4,831	10,058	8,307
Balsams cks, etc.	20	90	495	583	504	501
Calumba bgs	102	82	618	398	946	721
Camphor pkgs	997	1,241	2,970	611	11,138	9,075
Cardamoms .. "	15	459	2,035	2,023	4,131	3,357
Cinchona..... "	377	£67	4,779	6,152	5,249	5,579
Cocculus indicus .. "	—	64	5	—	100	95
Cochineal "	84	56	425	143	822	1,123
Cubebs "	—	12	307	456	—	235
Dragon's blood... "	—	12	49	123	74	153
Galls..... "	65	242	2,251	1,917	3,967	3,023
Gums—	—	—	11	9	34	34
Ammoniacum .. "	52	75	135	279	802	881
Animi "	205	1,863	7,356	5,184	9,971	10,499
Arabic "	16	43	280	514	987	1,065
Asafetida..... "	70	154	1,039	1,230	2,053	2,054
Benzoin "	3,269	4,125	16,617	17,960	39,983	38,795
Copal..... "	5	505	1,916	2,920	6,447	6,685
Damar "	—	—	—	—	—	—
Galbanum ... "	—	9	28	94	112	168
Gamboge..... "	4	1	46	51	17	20
Guaiaacum ... "	—	1	715	1,258	1,788	2,431
Kauri ... tons net	115	139	66	59	37	17
Kino..... pkgs	—	—	16	12	62	43
Mastic "	—	2	196	207	326	345
Myrrh, B.I. .. "	53	88	136	3,070	1,301	2,506
Olibanum ... "	33	175	1,271	573	1,181	1,566
Sandarac "	—	167	189	4,473	11,150	12,917
Tragacanth... "	762	1,034	3,329	—	—	—
Ipecacuanha—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cartagena "	1	14	41	45	167	180
E.I. ("Johore").. "	21	10	37	1	211	192
Matto Grosso .. "	1	9	92	71	175	147
Minas "	1	7	70	19	181	129
Jalap..... bls.	24	—	41	91	44	72
Nux vomica pkgs.	—	2	20	376	853	857
Oils—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Aniseed, star... cs.	40	20	31	51	53	80
*Cassia..... "	10	17	33	33	107	92
Castor..... pkgs	266	145	325	196	1,646	1,505
Coconut tons	66	131	230	100	1,621	1,376
Olive cks, etc.	258	1,074	1,743	710	7,057	5,933
Palm tons	—	3	11	2	37	31
Quinine lb.	3,438	4,228	220,912	195,773	51,585	37,264
Rhubarb cchts.	165	75	578	247	924	543
Sarsaparilla bls.	82	102	192	78	1,124	1,000
Senna..... "	3-4	481	789	1,882	3,418	4,189
Shellac..... cs.	7,381	3,285	25,134	12,702	£0,727	38,042
Turmeric..... tons	2	30	338	249	384	289
Wax—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bees' pkgs.	—	199	2,116	2,003	4,711	4,463
Vegetable..... "	—	34	106	352	370	56

* Stocks of essential oils at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included.

"INFAMOUS CONDUCT."—At the last meeting of the Council of the British Medical Association the Ethical Committee was authorised to act as complainants before the General Medical Council in suitable cases, and to incur expenditure not exceeding 25l. in the presentation of any single case.

At the Brighton Police Court on November 13, Mr. Joaquin Borda was fined 20s., and costs, for an assault on Mr. Leonard Horner, of Brunswick Place, Hove. The parties had been interested in a horticultural business, over which a dispute occurred; and, according to the medical evidence, the assault must have been of a violent character.

BAD HANDWRITING.—A Manchester paper remarks that the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST evidently thinks that there is nothing to be done about bad handwriting but to accept the situation. Presumably with a view to educating chemists in the art of reading bad writing, it is publishing facsimiles of the scrawls sent out by some physicians as prescriptions. For the correct transcription of these three prizes are offered. The name of the offending writer in each case is suppressed, and it would be interesting to know his thoughts when he sees his handiwork pilloried. Will he "tak' a thocht and mend" or take revenge by issuing prescriptions which the whole Pharmaceutical Society could not decipher?

Chemical Society.

A MEETING was held at Burlington House, W., on Thursday, November 7, at 8.30, the chair being taken by the President (Sir W. Ramsay, K.C.B., F.R.S.).

GASEOUS NITROGEN TRIOXIDE

was the subject of the first paper, contributed by Mr. and Mrs. H. Brereton Baker. The object of the investigation was to ascertain whether the dissociation of liquid nitrogen trioxide into nitrogen peroxide and nitric oxide, which takes place when the liquid is allowed to evaporate in the ordinary way, also occurs in the case of the perfectly water-free liquid. The gas was prepared from white arsenic and nitric acid, dried over phosphorus pentoxide, and finally liquefied and sealed off in a series of little bulbs ingeniously blown on one piece of capillary tubing. The pure liquid nitrogen trioxide so obtained is green at ordinary temperatures, but becomes "Oxford blue" at about -30°C . It is insoluble in water, but in contact with the latter slowly dissociates, forming nitrogen peroxide, which then dissolves. The perfectly dry gas produced by allowing the liquid to evaporate has a density indicating that it is mainly composed of N_2O_3 molecules with some N_2O_4 molecules. Mr. Baker continued with a second paper, in conjunction with Mr. Bennett, on

THE ATOMIC WEIGHT OF TELLURIUM.

This also arose out of Mr. Baker's investigations on the non-reactivity of perfectly dry materials, since he had found that tellurium, dried with the greatest precaution, still reacted with oxygen and the halogens, and as tellurium appears to be abnormally situated in the periodic table, it seemed possible that both these anomalies might be due to the association of a still unknown element with tellurium. Elaborate fractionations of a large number of tellurium compounds have been made by Messrs. Baker and Bennett, but so far the results are negative, and there is no indication that the atomic weight now given to the element is wrong. A point of some pharmaceutical interest was mentioned in connection with the fractionation of metallic chlorides—viz., that it is possible completely to separate antimony from bismuth by fractional precipitation of the chlorides with water, the oxychloride of antimony coming down first.

Five other papers were read during the evening. The first of these was by Mr. Godby on "The Isomerism of the Double Sulphites of Sodium and Potassium," in which evidence was brought forward to show that salts in which the metal is joined directly to sulphur do not occur. The second was to have been read by Dr. Forster, but he contented himself with showing a test-tube containing a new compound (name not stated) which separates from its solutions

AS A JELLY AND THEN SLOWLY CRYSTALLISES.

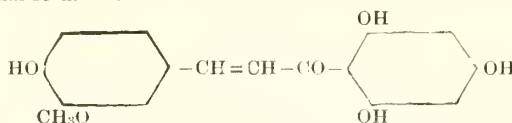
The author thought this property was rather unique, until several pharmaceutical Fellows in the audience pointed out that the same peculiarity is shown by hyoscyamine, solanine, and other plant constituents, and Mr. Baly capped these instances with the statement that ordinary salt can, under certain conditions, be made to separate as a jelly if chloroform be added to its solution in water. Two papers dealing with (1) "The Vapour-pressures of Amines and their Mixtures with Water," and (2) "Liquid Triethylamine," were then read by Mr. Lattey. The last paper was from the Wellcome Chemical Research laboratories, and was read by Dr. Power. It was a

NOTE ON THE CONSTITUTION OF HOMOEIODICTYOL.

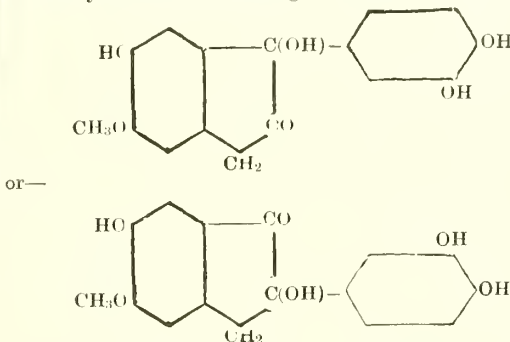
By F. B. Power and F. Tutin.

Some time ago, during an examination of *Eriodictyon* leaves, the authors isolated, together with other compounds, a crystalline substance, $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_8$, designated homoeriodictyol ("Proc. A.Ph.A.," 1906, 54, 352). After the publication of this work a paper by G. Mossler appeared ("Annalen," 1907, 351, 233), in which the results of an examination of the same drug were described. Mossler had also isolated from *Eriodictyon* the substance possessing the formula $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_8$, and proposed to designate it "eriodictyonon."

The results of their further examination of homoeriodictyol ("Journ. Chem. Soc.," 1907, 91, 837) led the present authors to assign to this substance the following constitutional formula:



The publication of this second paper was shortly followed by a further communication from Mossler to the Vienna Academy of Sciences ("Sitzungsber. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. in Wien," Bd. 96, June 1907), in which he sets forth the conclusion that homoeriodictyol ("eriodictyonon") is represented by one of the following formulae:



Since the present authors have shown that the action of alkalis on homoeriodictyol results in the formation of ferulic acid and phloroglucinol, and as a compound possessing either of the above two configurations would be incapable of yielding phloroglucinol on hydrolysis, it follows that neither of the formulae proposed by Mossler can correctly represent the constitution of homoeriodictyol. Mossler also states that homoeriodictyol is optically active, but the present authors are unable to confirm this observation, for an examination of both this substance and its tetra-acetyl derivative has shown them to be quite devoid of optical activity. It was furthermore pointed out that the value for the optical rotation of homoeriodictyol, as recorded by Mossler, is incorrectly calculated from his data. So far as the present authors are aware, therefore, no facts have yet been recorded which are not in harmony with the constitutional formula they have assigned to homoeriodictyol.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form No. 7, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," October 23, 1907.)

- "SMOBAZA" on label showing a man suffering from toothache and another offering him the remedy; for medicines. By Alexander Bazanhoff, 49 Moorgate Street, London, E.C. 289,517.
- "ONIDS"; for proprietary medicines. By W. W. Balfour & Co., 7 Bath Street, Glasgow. 295,874.
- "CUTICURA" (label red on black background); for pills and ointment. By Potter Drug and Chemical Corporation, 135-137 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 292,582. 292,580.
- "LIVURA"; for chemicals. By Alfred Bishop Ltd., 48 Spelman Street, London, N.E. 296,155.
- "CHLOROFORM" crossed by autograph; for chloroform. By Richard Anschütz, 158 Mackenheimerstrasse, Bonn a/Rhine, Germany. 296,185.
- "SOLTAB"; for chemicals. By C. J. Hewlett & Son, 35-42 Charlotte Street, Great Eastern Street, London, E.C. 296,256.
- "DIASE"; for a food-substance. By the British Diamalt Co., 31 Southwark Street, London. 294,220.

- "CLOBYN"; for malt-extracts. By W. E. Taylor & Co., 53 Cadogan Street, Glasgow. 295,480.
- "CIDERETTE"; for food-substances and for mineral and aerated waters. By Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., Standard Works, 95A Southwark Street, London. 295,760, 295,761.
- "KLK-SO" and "KLINKO"; for food-substances. By John Mackintosh, Ltd., Kingston Confectionery Works, Queen's Road, Halifax, Yorkshire. 296,208, 296,209.
- "EVIAN-CACHAT"; for a natural mineral water. By S. A. des Eaux Minérales d'Evian-les-bains, 21 rue Lafayette, Paris. 293,559.
- "SOURCE DES CORDELIERS" on label; for natural mineral water. By S. A. des Eaux Minérales d'Evian-les-bains, 31 rue Lafayette, Paris. 293,560.
- "DIBOLIO"; for candles, soap, etc. By T. Kerfoot & Co., Bardsley Vale Mills, Oldham Road, Bardsley, near Ash-ton-under-Lyne. 296,461.
- "LILLUM"; for perfumery. By Lily Beresford, 32 Sutherland Place, Westbourne Grove, W. 295,382.
- "POUDRO"; for a powder-diffusing apparatus. By T. Christy & Co., 4, 10, and 12 Old Swan Lane, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C. 295,853.
- (From the "Trade-marks Journal," October 30, 1907.)
- "FLUORON"; for a liquid flux. By Theodor Wieland, 33 Theaterstrasse, Pforzheim, Baden, Germany. 294,904.
- "PUREX"; for chemicals. By J. B. Hannay, Greenford Road, Greenford Green, Harrow, Middlesex. 296,271.
- "LEECH BRAND"; for size. By British Size Mfg. Co., West Heath Mill, West Heath, Congleton, Cheshire. 296,399.
- Label depicting two dogs, one before and the other after treatment; for a distemper-mixture for dogs. By John Birbeck, Carr Holme, Stackhouse, Settle, Yorks. 294,892.
- "BIOSENE"; for a disinfectant. By Robert D. Stewart, 61 Mansell Street, Aldgate, E. 295,770.
- "NITROLIN"; for chemicals. By North-Western Cyanamide Co., Ltd., 39 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 296,567.
- "RUBEROIDS"; for chemicals. By Anglo-Indian Drug & Chemical Co., 16 Market, Bombay, India. 289,358.
- "CARNINE LEFRANC" on label showing a cow reclining with the word "ZOMOTHEAPIE" over it; for a pharmaceutical preparation. By Victor Fumouze & Cie., 78 Faubourg Saint-Denis, Paris. 294,547.
- "PHATECO"; for chemicals and surgical instruments not medicated. By "Phateco" ges. m.b.H., 1 Ferdinandplatz, Dresden-A-Saxony, Germany. 294,078, 294,079.
- "COLUNE"; for all goods in Class 3. By The Colune Co., 66 Albert Road, Colne, Lancs. 294,891.
- "LALKALA"; for an asthma-cure. By Arthur C. Brownlow, Nutfield House, Kenley, Surrey. 296,146.
- "IVAX"; for all goods in Class 3. By John Atkins, 109 Queen's Road, Bayswater, W. 296,698.
- Reproduction of label depicting a man making chemical experiments; for chemicals. By the Anglo-American Co., Ltd., 3 & 5 Frith Road, Croydon, Surrey. 296,254.
- "PRESERVATOR" ("Preservative" disclaimed); for food-substances. By Reitmeyer & Co., 63 Crutched Friars, London, E.C. 291,002.
- "PERRIER"; for natural mineral water. By Perrier, 45-47 Wigmore Street, London, W. 287,951.
- "LIGHTNING"; for common soap. By Ed. Cook & Co., Ltd., East London Soap-works, Bow, E. 290,246.
- "HANOLINE"; for a liquid soap in Class 47. By Robert D. Stewart, 61 Mansell Street, Aldgate, London, E. 295,771.
- Coat of arms, showing a shield, a double-headed eagle, and two couchant lions; for perfumery. By S. F. Goss, Ltd., 460 Oxford Street, W. 295,884.
- "AMECOLA"; for perfumery. By W. Dennis, High Street, Mundesley-on-Sea. 296,273.
- (From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 6, 1907.)
- "MANNOL"; for a substitute for camphor. By Chemische Fab. vorm. Weiler-ter Meer, 1 Rheinstrasse, Uerdingen on the Rhine, Germany. 291,805.
- "DRYKWIKO"; for paint and similar preparations and oil in Class 4. By Henry Brookes & Co., 70 Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C. 296,267, 296,056.
- "AURANTHRENE"; for all goods in Class 1 and Class 4. By Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik, Friesenheimerstrasse, Ludwigshafen-on-Rhine, Germany. 296,448, 296,449.
- "BIG BEN"; for chemicals. By Hodgson & Simpson, Ltd., Bebington, near Birkenhead. 296,113.
- "MICROCID"; for a disinfectant. By Gillman & Spencer (1902), Ltd., 44 Princes Street, Rotherhithe, S.E. 296,158.
- "LENOS"; for a preparation for hemorrhoids. By John Cummock, 45 Ropework Lane, Glasgow. 287,982.



CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. Publication of letters does not imply our agreement with the arguments or approval of the statements therein. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects presumably of interest to our readers generally. Letters received after the early posts on Wednesday cannot as a rule be dealt with in the current week's issue.

BUSINESS INFORMATION.—We have very full records of the makers or agents for articles and products connected with the chemical and drug trades, and supply information respecting them by post to inquirers. Inquiries regarding any articles which cannot be traced in this manner are inserted under "Information Wanted."

U.S.P. Oil-of-lemon Tests.

SIR,—The characters and tests given in the U.S.P. for oil of lemon have been considered by us since the Pharmacopœia was published, but we did not intend to undertake a critique, because we hoped that American chemists would have supplied what is wanted. The complaints of several Italian firms who have very large lots of pure oil rejected on the simple analysis made in America lead us to understand that what is prescribed by the U.S.P., though partly inexact, is rigorously observed. Anyone who, like us, is in the very place where oil of lemon is produced, knows by experience that such a product has chemical and physical characters which are changeable, and are often beyond the bounds assigned by the said Pharmacopœia. The limitations of the U.S.P. are so inconsistent with the facts as to be an obstacle to the local trade as well as to business in the U.S.A., where they refused on the basis of the Pharmacopœia requirements absolutely pure oil of lemon, and, in the interest of trade and foremost of truth, we wish to discuss the methods of analysis required by the Pharmacopœia.

The limit of specific gravity there given is 0.851 to 0.855 at 25° C. Whereas, while we find the highest limit exact, the minimum, on the contrary, may go down to 0.849. The optical rotation of the oil in 100 m.m. tube must not be inferior to +58 at 25° C. Here we beg to observe that this limit is too high. Generally oil of lemon has a rotation which varies between +58 and +66 at 20° C., that is between +57.20 and +65.20 at 25° C., but rotation is greatly influenced by locality, season, and the degree of maturation and quality of the fruit. In fact, the so-called "Bastardoni" lemons give normally an oil frequently less than +56, although it has a fine flavour. This year nearly all oils rotated less than +60.00 at 20° C., and some, though pure, rotated below +58 at 20° C. In our opinion the rotation of the lemon oil may vary between +56 and +66 at 20° C. With regard to the difference between the direct rotation of the oil and that of the first distilled tenth, we consider the limit of 2 insufficient, as in our experience the difference may reach 4 and even in some cases 5.

We now add some words on the method of testing citral by the said Pharmacopœia. In our experience such a method cannot give a satisfactory result because, on account of the hydrolysis that appears through the heat of the sodium sulphite, it is difficult to seize the precise point of neutralisation of the liquid. The differences in results by the same operator become sometimes sensible, and consequently are still stronger between one operator and another. We believe that in the mutual interest of Italian and U.S. trade it is important to modify the methods prescribed by the U.S.A. Pharmacopœia in analysing the oil of lemon, and we dare trust that such a modification will soon be adopted and be such as to satisfy both parties.

E. BERTÉ,

G. ROMEO,

Chemists of the Chamber of Commerce in Messina.
Messina, October 10.

Situations Abroad.

SIR,—Some months ago a letter appeared in these columns written by an assistant in South Africa, in which he warned men in England not to accept appointments abroad at what might at first sight appear to be a large salary, without first ascertaining the cost of living and other expenses. He went on to state that after paying for his board, lodging, washing, etc., he was no better off than a Kaffir! I wish, Sir, to suggest that other inquiries should be made, besides the question of salary, by those contemplating accepting engagements abroad; and, to emphasise what I mean, will give my own experience. I was engaged for an appointment abroad by a well-known firm of wholesale druggists in England, who, in answer to my inquiry, were unable to tell me who the proprietors of the business were or even their nationality, except that they had done business with the firm for a number of years. When I arrived at my destination I was met by a shabby-looking mulatto, who produced a dirty card introducing himself, and requesting me to "have a drink." I at once discovered my mistake. The firm, which rejoiced in a British name, had been converted into a limited-liability company; the mulatto was the "manager," and I was the only white man on the staff. Friction was at once set up between the other employees and myself, even the manager (because I refused to substitute in dispensing) joining in the general "ragging." According to law my name, as that of the qualified man on the premises, was exhibited over the shop door; and because I would not prostitute my qualification for their gain by stooping to practise their low tricks, my position became almost unbearable. When I first joined the firm I was expected to sell spirits, tobacco, confectionery, etc., on Sundays, although there was a strict law prohibiting Sunday trading. After I had been with them some little time they actually had the presumption to order me to take night duty (all night) every night, in addition to working all day long in the shop! Naturally I refused. I was then told that steps would be taken to keep me at my post. But this, of course, ended in smoke. Even after I left the firm they continued to keep my name over the door!

Yours truly,

EX-COLONIAL. (2/92.)

[This is interesting as an experience, but, happily, such experiences are rare. We had a conversation this week with an assistant in South Africa, who had quite a different tale to tell. We have no reason to believe that Colonial employers are, as a rule, an exception to those at home.—EDITOR.]

How to Do it.

SIR,—It looks as if Scotland is to be the prime mover in the reform of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. MacKenzie's letter and your note on the finances of the Society make good reading for many men besides myself. My chief concern is "how"; the need of thorough reform I have been convinced of for ten years. My plan is the only one which is possible of attainment by May 1909. Here it is:

In May 1908 we send up seven new men pledged to reform. They need not attend many meetings, nor even one meeting, until May 1909. At April 1909 we send up seven more men, likewise pledged. Then at May meeting we meet for *one week* and wipe the slate clean.

After that we shall have a Society, 15,000 strong, of druggists and drug-store owners at 5s. yearly subscription—3,000l. yearly income—more than enough of a margin as an estimate; half of it should be enough; arrange our examinations and finances, then go to the Privy Council and arrange for a short amending Poison Act, and we shall be in order for the next few years, anyhow. Now, Mr. Editor, that is a workable plan. All others need Parliamentary work, and Parliament is hopelessly choked with more important work than to bother about a mere handful of druggists

JAY. MACK.

SIR,—I enclose a cutting from "Lloyd's Weekly" of November 10, in which the coroner stated that in several cases which had come under his notice there was strong suspicion that fullers' earth was the cause of death, lockjaw supervening its use. Can any of your readers, speaking from personal experiences, call any such case to mind?

Yours faithfully,

Hitchin, November 11.

H. JOHN HENDERSON.

[The cutting contains an account of the inquest at Bethnal Green on November 8 on a baby ten days old. The Coroner

condemned the use of "a dirty powder," as he called it, when the nurse said she had used fullers' earth. "Clean linen, soap, and water are all that are needed," he said; "if powder must be used a little bright, clean starch powder would be far better."]

The Unqualified Assistant.

SIR,—The letter of "Ajax" in your issue of November 9 is a serious impeachment, primarily, of the efficiency of the Pharmaceutical Society (as at present constituted) and of the *bona fides* of managers and assistants, and even principals, "within our gates." I take it that personation, especially in the case of an official qualification, would be an indictable offence. This view of the subject gives "Ajax's" statement a grave aspect, and such cases should, of course, be forthwith investigated, independently of our pharmaceutical "pastors and masters."

Yours truly,

IGNOTUS. (25/721.)

Sale of "Patents" on Sundays.

SIR,—Replying to "Perplexed" in your issue of November 9, we enclose a small label which we have found very useful, and which effectually stops argument. Also it points out that on weekdays we can meet store competition. The only necessary explanation is that we have to pay assistants for extra duty.

Yours faithfully,

TAYLOR, BRAWN & FLOOD.

On Sundays and at hours when the shop is closed, we cannot follow our every-day custom of supplying patent medicines at store-prices.

The extra charge is 1d. in each 1s.

No photographic goods supplied on Sundays.

TAYLOR, BRAWN & FLOOD, CHEMISTS, BEDFORD.

Legal Queries.

See the "C. & D. Diary, 1907," for much legal information as to all trade matters. In any circumstance not covered by the articles therein, state the case explicitly with all particulars and submit to the Editor.

Radix (24/41).—There appears to be no option for a retail chemist in regard to the sale of prussic acid, but to get the purchaser to sign the book. This applies to a veterinary surgeon as well as a lay purchaser. The V.S. need not be indignant. The law specially exempts him from the provisions of the first fifteen sections of the Act, but he is not privileged in any way by Section 17.

Dubitas (26/26).—An unqualified person who buys a pharmaceutical chemist's business and continues it with a pharmaceutical chemist as manager infringes the Pharmacy Acts, 1852 and 1868.

Ajax (26/23).—Your label bears a disclosure as to the formula of the corn-plaster, and will exempt from duty the plaster sold in the envelope. The handbill does not bear the same title, but we presume you give the corn-plaster when the corn-silk is asked for. If so, the handbill and envelope refer to the same thing. The consideration, therefore, arises whether there is anything on the handbill which takes the preparation out of the special exemption. Bearing in mind that a known, admitted, and approved remedy is one that can be made by anybody, the title on the handbill, "The [name of town] specially prepared corn-silk" implies that this is not the case with your plaster. We do not go so far as to say that the handbill takes the plaster out of exemption; but if the Board of Inland Revenue object you will have some difficulty in proving that you have kept within the terms of the exemption.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months. A preliminary condition for reporting on samples submitted is that all particulars as to source and uses are given to us.

Viridis (257/17).—LAWN-SAND for destroying worms on lawns.—This appears to be simply sharp sand, and probably acts mechanically in much the same way as powdered glass, which is employed for the same purpose. Sometimes a little quicklime, salt, or potassium bisulphate is mixed with the sand, but these ingredients are absent from the sample you send.

E. H. R. (234/14).—OXIDATION OF ALUMINIUM.—"E. H. R." used an aluminium-dish for melting together a mixture of emp. hydrarg., lanolin, and ol. olivæ. After the dish had been cleaned and put away it was found to be thickly covered with a greyish powdery matter, and we are asked to explain the phenomena. This experience illustrates the disadvantage of aluminium vessels at the dispensing-counter, and particularly where mercury and alkaline solutions are allowed to come in contact with the metal. The spontaneous oxidising of aluminium which takes place in the contact with mercury has several times been pointed out, and was the subject of a paper read before the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry in December 1896, which was reported in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* at the time. We remember an instance where aluminium splints gave trouble in hospital practice through being wetted with mercuric-chloride solution, so that mercury in any form probably has an oxidising action on aluminium. The powder has been found by some investigators to be a hydrate rather than an oxide of aluminium.

Quercus (248/39).—(1) CATTLE INDIGESTION-POWDER.—An examination of the powder you send as being particularly useful for indigestion and loss of appetite in cattle results in the following representative recipe:

Pulv. nucis vom. ...	3ss.
Pulv. ammon. carb. ...	3j.
Pulv. gentianæ ad ...	3iv.

Mix, for a dose. To be mixed with a pint of water and given fasting. The powder can be prepared in bulk, but should be sent out weighed into powders, each wrapped in waxed paper or tinfoil so as to retard deterioration.

(2) BOOKS ON TOOTH-EXTRACTION.—Barrett's "Dental Surgery" (Lewis, 3s. 6d.). See also bibliography in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1906.

F. H. R. (1/36).—The sample of ointment is too small to be of much analytical value, but we make it out to be a spermaceti-ointment with a small proportion of ung. hydrarg. ox. rub. If you mix 1 dram of the latter with seven times the quantity of ung. cetacei you should obtain an ointment of approximately the same composition.

Acid (4/17).—CLEANING MARBLE.—Either an acid or an alkaline mixture is used for cleaning marble. In using an acid—oxalic acid or vinegar—the polish of the marble is affected injuriously, but this does not matter in the case of badly stained marble. The acid is generally mixed with powdered pumice-stone or kieselguhr and water, and applied with vigorous rubbing. The acid must be well washed off with clean water when its work is done. The alkaline mixtures used for cleaning marble consist of—

Dried sodium carbonate ...	2 parts
Powdered pumice-stone ...	1 part
Powdered chalk ...	1 part

Made into a paste with water. The cream is rubbed on the marble and removed with soap and water. Other compounds of caustic alkalies are also used, generally prepared by adding quicklime to sodium carbonate or potassium carbonate.

Thistle (249/20).—HORSE COUGH-POWDERS.—The following is the approximate composition of the horse-powders you send:

Pulv. fol. aconiti ...	3vj.
Antim. nigr. ...	3iij.
Arsen. alb. ...	3ss.
Pulv. anisi ...	3iv.
Pulv. resinæ ad ...	3iij.

Misce et divide in pulv. vj. Signe, "One powder to be given every night in the food."

The cough-powders containing arsenic and aconite are generally given in chronic cough, occasionally a little powdered digitalis is added.

Hair Wash (213/3).—ROSEMARY AND CANTHARIDIN HAIR-WASH.—The cloudy preparation you send is imitated thus:

Tincture of cantharides ...	3j.
Glycerin of borax ...	3j.
Burnt sugar ...	q.s.
Distilled water ...	3xij.

Mix and filter, then add—

Essence of white rose ...	3ij.
Spirit of rosemary ...	3j.

A. W. (230/29).—CIGAR-LIGHTERS.—These little instruments have a small pledget of platinum black so arranged that it can be put into the vapour of absolute alcohol. This causes the platinum to become incandescent and sets fire to the alcoholic vapour. For lighting gas this arrangement is varied by the use of an intermediate igniter device which in one form consists of a mixture of thorium nitrate and cerium nitrate with a trace of rhodium chloride. The thorium

nitrate is present to the extent of 99 per cent. Fibrous material is impregnated with the igniter in the form of solution. The cigar-lighters are common objects in fancy shops in London just now, and sell at 1s. each.

B. H. K. (255/43).—ROUF-POWDER.—We find this to have the following composition:

Ferri sulph. exsic. ...	1 part
Sodii sulph. exsic. ...	8 parts
Terræ rubræ ...	q.s.

Mix. One tablespoonful to be mixed with the food of nine fowls.

The active ingredients are the iron and soda sulphates, but the colouring-matter is useful in keeping the powder from becoming lumpy and hence difficult to dissolve.

J. L. (247/33).—You should send postcard inquiries to the tablet-makers in regard to the formula in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1904. There should be no difficulty in obtaining them.

Colonial (24/54).—BRANDING LIQUID FOR CATTLE.—See *C. & D.*, December 22, 1906, p. 954.

H. H. M. (256/72).—CATTLE-SPICE as your sample:

Powdered anise ...	4 oz.
Powdered fenugreek ...	2 oz.
Powdered capsicum ...	1 oz.
Powdered liquorice ...	4 oz.
Powdered ginger ...	4 oz.
Ground locust-beans ...	8 oz.
Ground linseed ...	6 oz.

Mix. One or two tablespoonfuls is mixed with each feed.

Acmé (18/45).—BRUSH-POLISH.—The kind of furniture-polish that is applied by means of a brush is made as follows:

Shellac ...	8 oz.
Benzoin ...	3 oz.
Resin ...	3 oz.
Spirit ...	2 pints

Dissolve.

Shino (250/37) wants to know what he can do in the way of installing an ENGINE AND PLANT FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTING. In the first place, it is never safe to leave running machinery unattended, however small it may be. It is therefore necessary in small private installations to have a storage battery which may be charged during the day by the dynamo. An installation such as our correspondent would require would consist of a small gas or oil engine of about 1½ to 2 h.p., a dynamo giving 6 to 10 amperes at 140 volts, and a battery of 55 cells of about 60 amp.-hr. capacity. This would allow him to burn ten lamps at a time for six hours, although in emergency this time could be almost doubled. It is extremely difficult to estimate the cost with any degree of accuracy, since this entirely depends upon (1) the firm who do the work, and (2) the make of machinery, accumulators, etc. Roughly, however, the whole installation, including the wiring and fittings, would cost something like 250l. The General Electric Co. make a petrol-electric set. Firms who cater specially for the drug-trade (*e.g.*, F. Darton & Co.) might be written to.

Apprentice (19/40).—Consult our Educational Number, published on August 11. You cannot become a dentist without spending four years in college study and the practice of mechanical dentistry.

Edina (24/47).—For the Persian kitten afflicted with worms give the following pill:

Santonin. ...	gr. ss.
Pulv. arecæ ...	gr. iij.
Ol. filicis maris ...	q.s.

M. Ft. pil.

Sig.: To be given on an empty stomach, and repeated if necessary. Follow this up next morning with a dose of castor oil or a pill as below:

Aloin. ...	gr. ¼
Jalapin. ...	gr. ¼
Podophyllin. ...	gr. ¼
Ext. gentianæ ...	q.s.

M. Ft. pil.

Sub. (2/90).—BLACKING ALUMINIUM.—A black lacquer is often employed, but another way is to stain the metal first and then lacquer with a transparent varnish. The solution used for staining is:

Zinc chloride ...	1 lb.
Copper sulphate ...	1 oz.
Hydrochloric acid ...	a sufficiency to clear
Hot water to make ...	½ gal.

Immerse the articles in this solution for at least twenty-four hours. Some processes of blacking aluminium are rigorously guarded as trade-secrets.

